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USA moves to take European year seriously

National security adviser Henry A. Kissinger has stated that the time has come for a review of the form and content of relations between the Old World and the New.

Gradually changes that have hitherto merely been the subject of non-committal debate and general confusion are beginning to take shape. This year, it would seem, important changes are in the offing in Europe.

President Nixon's message is welcomed in this country. Willy Brandt and Foreign Minister Walter Scheel have continually made it clear that amid the confusion of economic, tariff, trade and security issues there is nothing they are less anxious to foster than any weakening of the Atlantic alliance.

America's desire to boost debate in hard times coinsides with a long-felt need on this country's part. It is gratifying to note that the United States now appears to be taking what it announced would be European Year seriously. The fact that Dr Kissinger will be the President's advocate sounds a hopeful note. It also underlines the seriousness with which America is setting about the task.

Henry Kissinger with his sense of history and feeling for the deeper significance of events has headed America's views with the tag of a second Atlantic charter. This concept is deserving of more detailed consideration.

By the terms of the Atlantic Charter of 14 August 1941 the United States for the first time assumed de facto leadership of the world in the face of the Fascist coalition.

That was all a long time ago, yet there will be no mistake in assuming that Dr Kissinger's reference amounts to a clear American claim to the leadership of the Western world, particularly since he did not forget to draw a distinction between the United States' worldwide interests as opposed to the regional interests of Western Europe or Japan.

The American concept would seem to be a good deal more straightforward than all attempts to explain the current state of world affairs in terms of triangular or five-cornered relationships.

In respect of Europe the United States remains the foremost member of the Western alliance just as the Soviet Union remains the leader of the Warsaw Pact.

As these two superpowers grow closer together with the progress of rapprochement and detente a certain amount of leeway is emerging for the Eastern and Western European countries whose interests they claim to protect and serve.

This elbow-room may and hopefully will increase in the course of the European security conference, but there can be no gainsaying that for some time to come both the United States and the Soviet Union will be more equal than others in Europe.

This does not preclude the possibility of a certain amount of European responsibility. Indeed, one of the more noteworthy parts of Dr Kissinger's speech indicates that the United States now openly acknowledges that Western Europe enjoys a degree of independence.

This independence results less from psychological characteristics of a new generation of leaders than from the simple fact that interests may not necessarily clash but do not automatically coincide either.

There is no point whatsoever in pretending that today's economic giant is still the Western Europe of the days of Marshall aid. Developments since then may entitle Europe to lodge counter-claims with the United States, but they also make it incumbent on Western Europe to contribute more to the common defence effort.

America's renewed pledge to ensure the security of Western Europe is accompanied by unmistakeable hints that Europe must boost its own contribution, and rightly so.

The United States as the leading member of the Western alliance seems willing to concede the new centres of power Western Europe (and, for that matter, Japan) a say and an equal say within the framework of the Atlantic alliance.

The dependence of old could yield to a coming to terms, but this all presupposes that Western Europe not only develops a new sense of self-awareness but also embodies it in a political union.

Western Europe cannot afford to totally defy the United States either economically or politically, but it must not remain objectly dependent either.

The recreation of a transatlantic partnership heralded by Henry Kissinger must involve a 'European' Europe capable of partnership with the United States and Japan while at the same showing willingness and ability to take over responsibilities and take on obligations of its own.

Hans Kepper

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 25 April 1973)

IN THIS ISSUE



Li Hsi-fu, head of the delegation from the People's Republic of China with Ernst Wolf Mommsen, Krupp chairman, Hans Friderichs, Federal Minister of Economic Affairs and Lower Saxony Prime Minister Alfred Kubel at the Hanover Fair. (Photo: dpa)

Hanover Fair opened

The twenty-seventh Hanover Fair, the largest of its kind in the world, was opened on 26 April by Economics Affairs Minister Hans Friderichs. 5,750 exhibitors, nearly a quarter of them from abroad, will be presenting a comprehensive display of capital goods until 4 May.

In the current economic situation the Minister accused those who jump at every opportunity of boosting prices and incomes of irresponsibility. Opening the Hanover Fair he expressed doubts as to whether price trends could be reversed at the present juncture.

The Federal government, he continued, had no alternative but to keep what he called an alarming upturn in prices at bay. A decision of further deflationary measures cannot be taken until the second half of May.

Consumer goods exhibitors will be represented for the last time, as they will be holding a trade fair of their own in Hanover starting next year.

The Eastern Bloc, particularly the Soviet Union, is more strongly represented this year than ever before. For the first time the People's Republic of China has also sent a delegation.

In all the Fair organisers are expecting more than half a million visitors from home and abroad, including a large contingent from the nine member countries of the enlarged Common Market.

With the expansion of the Common Market Britain has for the first time become the largest foreign exhibitor, followed by France and Italy. A total of 33 countries have stands at the Fair.

Despite the optimism shared by nearly all exhibitors that orders will flow there is a certain unease at the continuing price spiral – "an inflationary trend" as one exhibitor put it.

In a number of industries there has already been frank mention of the need for fresh price increases.

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 27 April 1973)



Flowers in Hamburg

President Gustav Heinemann opened the Hamburg Garden Show (IGA) on 27 April. More than 1,200 exhibitors from 48 nations are participating in the show. It is expected that one million tulips, 15,000 rose bushes and more than 300,000 various other garden plants will be exhibited. The Garden Show will close on 8 October. (Photo: Conti-Press)

■ FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Moscow and Whitehall bury the hatchet

DIE WELT

Hardly an ambassador in London has had to ring the diplomatic changes from amiable goodwill to chilly dislike and back to such an extent over the past six years as Soviet ambassador Mikhail Smirnovsky, whose tour of duty in the British capital has just come to an end.

In 1967, when Soviet Premier Alexei Kosygin visited London and proferred a somewhat startled British government a friendship pact, Harold Wilson told Parliament that "relations between Great Britain and the Soviet Union are better than they have ever been at any time in our history."

Eighteen months later Mr Wilson, again addressing Parliament, labasted the "grim and cynical determination with which the Soviet government seeks to forestall all acts of liberalisation in the Eastern Bloc."

This, of course, was at the time of the Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia. A further year and a half later the Soviet leaders were so alarmed at the prospect of a Conservative electoral victory in Britain that they overrode their anger with Mr Wilson for his outburst of emotion, not to mention all considerations of political tact, and extended a last-minute invitation to the Labour leader to visit Moscow.

A year later still, in autumn 1971, a diplomatic ice age resumed in relations between the two countries, the Conservative government expelling no fewer than 105 Soviet diplomats in London for alleged espionage activities.

This period of diplomatic dispeasure has recently been brought to an official conclusion, Mr Kosygin meeting in Moscow Peter Walker, the first member of Mr Heath's Cabinet to be accorded an official reception by the Soviet government, and Mr Smirnovsky being granted the uncommon privilege of a stay with the Royal Family at Windsor.

This bizarre diplomatic love-hate graph bears witness to a relationship that has invariably been based on emotion and opportunism, on good intentions and bad deeds.

Over the past three years there cannot have been a Western government that viewed Soviet approaches to the West with greater reserve and scepticism than the British and Britain paid the price, being portrayed in Soviet propaganda as the bogyman of Europe.

This role, incidentally, was the one in which the Soviet Union cast this country during the sixties.

What, then, has happened to induce the Soviet Union to bring to an end an era of diplomatic and political confrontation with Whitehall, forgetting even the expulsion of its 105 diplomats?

The fact that the ice was broken in the Soviet Union by Mr Walker, Britain's Secretary for Trade and Industry, has led to the mistaken assumpting that trade interests have decided Britain and Russia to bury the hatchet.

Nothing is less probable. At no time, not even when all was sweetness and light, had trade between the two assumed serious proportions and even now, with the exception of a number of British techniques, there is little Britain has to offer that the Soviet Union could not purchase just as conveniently on other Western markets.

A far stronger likelihood is that considerations of utility lie behind the Soviet policy change. As long as Britain was still outside the Common Market the Soviet attempt to isolate London politically retained a certain logic.

Now that Britain is fully integrated within the European Community a deep rift in Anglo-Soviet relations might, in view of the active part Britain is playing in the new, nine-member Community, wreak havoc with Moscow's entire European policy concept.

Besides, the Kremlin must have sensed that the mutual balanced force reduction talks in Vienna, thus far viewed by Britain with greater scepticism than by all other Nato countries put together, stood not the slightest prospect of coming to a satisfactory conclusion from the Soviet point of view as long as London and Moscow were at daggers drawn.

Last but not least, Anglo-Chinese relations have been steadily improving, and before long Premier Heath is more than likely himself to visit Peking. This too may have decided the Russians to review their attitude towards Whitehall.

The return to normal in Anglo-Soviet ties that has resulted must not, of course, be overrated. Progress towards realistic and cordial relations between the two governments will remain protacted and arduous.

By visiting Czechoslovakia Opposition leader Harold Wilson may have felt able to bury the past and lay the groundwork for a fresh British *Ostpolitik*, but he was barking up the wrong tree.

There is no easy way out to cordial ties between Britain and the Soviet Union. For the time being the journey will remain long, arduous and by third-class ticket only.

Fritz Wirth

(Die Welt, 24 April 1973)

Vietnam truce has not ended the war

The Vietnam truce did not bring fighting to an end for a single day. The dozen signatures by all concerned were not worth the paper they were penned upon.

Hysterical international self-deception, leading for some people to genuine hopes of peace, is being shown up by the daily news for what it is. Once again pseudo-humanitarian catchphrases have been used without success to try and paper over the barbaric reality.

Apart from the withdrawal of US land forces the situation has changed not at all. What is even worse is that there can be no such thing as change because all talk about possible compromises is simple historic nonsense.

The situation is as it is because of the peoples of Indo-China themselves. The Vietnamese, Khmers and Laotians have been at daggers drawn throughout their history. There has even been continual tension between North and South Vietnam. It has now, for the past thirty years, come to a head under the banner of the hammer and sickle.

The way ahead was clear from the moment the yoke of French colonial power was removed. Hanoi was going to try and establish a Greater Indo-China under its leadership. The way was signposted by Ho Chi Minh, whose Communism was in reality a dream of national sovereighty. "The peoples of Indo-China," he proclaimed, "will be liberated by revolutionary means."

There cannot be the slightest doubt that of the peoples of Indo-China the North Vietnamese are today the best-disciplined and most determined by far. While President Thieu's South Vietnam is fighting for the survival of its democracy, or perhaps it would be better to talk in terms of it defending the level of consumption to which it was accustomed during the American era, Hanoi is intent on gaining power.

It would be living in a dilettante's dream-world to expect to bring conflict to an end by means of the amiable liberal concepts current in this part of the world. The Vietnamese are tough fighters. What they want is to win, and nothing else. This is equally true of both sides, the sole difference being that Hanoi has the larger-scale concept and will doubtless win in the long run as a result.

Only in the world at large is the fighting in Cambodia and Laos considered as conflict in different countries. As far as



North and South Vietnam are concerned it is simply a matter of military engagement elsewhere in Indo-China.

A man such as Prince Sihanouk is merely a pawn in the participants' game. Even the Chinese are only making use of the Cambiodian prince as a long-term means of bringing pressure to bear on Hanoi.

This brings us to the second, major nexus. The great powers China and Russia are, contrary to foolishly one-sided propaganda in the West, at least as much to blame for and interested in the outcome of fighting in Vietnam as are the Americans, who were admittedly more directly involved.

One of the reasons why China came to terms with the United States was, when all is said and done, that Peking was not on such good terms with Hanoi as it would have liked the world at large to assume.

China cannot be particularly keen on the prospect of a powerful Indo-Chinese empire to the South. In this context the Soviet Union has but one aim in view, to keep on sufficiently good terms with Hanoi to ensure that the Soviet encirclement of China continues even though the Americans may have made their departure.

Washington, Moscow and Peking are equally responsible for the bloodshed in Vietnam, in proportion – it must be added – to the influence they wield. But this is not the deeper reasons for the war, which is in reality a war between the Vietnamese for supremacy in Indo-China.

The Vietnamese take a sanguine view of the situation and such sentimentality as they resort to is viewed merely in tactical terms as a propaganda weapon in the West.

As far as they are concerned what is at stake is power, and the fighting will continue until one side or the other has won, regardless of losses.

Dietrich Huber

(Kieler Nachrichten, 24 April 1973)

Security conference must be 'Made in Europe' not 'Russi[an]'

Most of the diplomats from European countries, the U[nited] States and Canada gathered tog[ether] again in Helsinki hope that the fourth latest round of talks, which bega[n] 26 April will be the last.

There can, however, be no certa[inty] that this will be the case, since the end [of] the preliminary talks and the beginning [of] the conference on security and coop[era]tion in Europe are dependent [on] agreement as to both a detailed ag[enda] and the main topics and detailed issu[es to] be debated by the proposed commiss[ions].

Agreement will be reached relat[ively] swiftly on trade, scientific, technolo[gical] and environmental cooperation, since socialist countries hope to gain advan[tages] from these aspects of East[-West] cooperation.

At first glance it may seem gratif[ying] enough that the conference will defin[itely] decide that all countries participat[ing are] sovereign states and that each [should] respect the other's social system.

Intervention in the domestic affa[irs of] other countries must, it will doubt[less] also be agreed, be proscribed. Yet t[his] formula may prove a handicap in ga[ining] acceptance of essential Western dema[nds].

Whenever socialist countries cons[ider] demands for freedom of travel, ideas [and] information to represent a threat to t[heir] system they can promptly reject th[em as] constituting intervention in the dom[estic] affairs of a sovereign socialist state.

With five months to go before [the] European security conference is sch[edul]ed to commence at Helsinki there is [some] justification for the sceptical query [as to] whether it is all worth the expen[se and] whether the conference can conc[eivably] come to a successful conclusion.

Realistic politicians and pundits [have] from the start not expected mu[ch]. Since Communists and democrats [both] continue to consider their resp[ective] social systems to be the better, the [most] that can be expected are minor d[eals] that hurt neither.

A minimum of readiness to [com]promise, is indeed necessary for [the] conference, which the Soviet Union [has] advocated for years, to be held at all.

The success or failure of the Hel[sinki] conference will, of course, depend [on the] degree of agreement reached between [the] two world powers, the United States [and] the Soviet Union.

The two have adopted diffe[rent] approaches, the United States a decid[edly] defensive, the Soviet Union a mark[edly] offensive posture, but the influence [of] both has grown as issues have be[en] handed over to working parties and su[b]committees so numerous that s[ome]

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■ CITIZENS' RIGHTS

Public is unaware of computer threat, ombudsman warns

Frankfurter Allgemeine

Willi Birkelbach, Hesse's computer ombudsman, became rather angry when reading his paper. The Federal Republic's first ever protector of privacy from the prying eyes of computers read to his amazement that a computer at Frankfurt University Clinic had caught fire.

Herr Birkelbach, who has been commissioned by the Hesse government to act as computer ombusman did not even know up till that point that the University clinic had a computer.

The lack of complete information about everything affecting data fed into computers concerning pepple's personal details is not the only thing that annoyed Herr Birkelbach. He is also perturbed that there is still no commission of experts in the Hesse provincial assembly to control the use of computers and the manifold possibilities of misusing them. He says that such a panel should be set up without delay.

He has already discovered that one town in Hesse was not at all disturbed when asked to supply papers from the crime squad's offices to a private research centre so that they could there be turned into punch cards.

The data released by the police not only gave the names, dates of birth and addresses of people but also details of their previous offences and convictions. Not all of these were properly codified.

When Herr Birkelbach protested at these practices the state crime squad in Wiesbaden issued an order this March forbidding the police to release any more data to private companies for computerisation.

In his latest report on his work Willi Birkelbach has warned that he has no way of observing whether the regulations concerning the confidential treatment of data by private companies will be adhered to.

It is only in dealing with public bodies and official sources that Herr Birkelbach is able to demand information to help him in his work. This legal setup is quite unsatisfactory.

In his report Herr Birkelbach attempts to make quite clear how far electronic data processing can penetrate into the private sphere, and how essential protective measures are.

Advertising companies and those dealing in mailing lists, private detective agencies, banks and insurance companies have already exchanged information on customers and collated this data so as to draw up various strata of clients.

A large advertising agency recently issued a catalogue offering the addresses of such groups: teenagers, young marrieds, denture wearers, those who have a good record of giving to charities, people with hunting licences and potential customers for pornography.

It was striking that this agency obviously obtained many of its addresses from the authorities. It proudly boasted so.

Just how imperfect protection of the public from the all-knowing computer is Herr Birkelbach underlines with a report in the January edition of *The Managers' Magazine*. According to this the Hermes Credit Assurance Company refused the application of two users of electronic data processing for a policy protecting them against action taken by victims of computer abuse.

The company stated that the risk was too high.

Herr Birkelbach added that it was clear that there was little protection of stored information about private persons since the mailing lists of mail order houses had been stolen.

Hesse's computer ombudsman also feels that the official assistance being offered to the Churches to collect and assess Church tax by means of computerised personal details is going far too far.

The widespread inclusion of religious communities in the State's information collecting system, Herr Birkelbach warned, is contrary to the aims of protection of the citizen from computer abuse. The personal rights of a citizen must always take precedence over the administrative requirements of the Churches.

In this report Herr Birkelbach writes: "Whereas in the past the most a body checking up on someone could do was to snoop into individual documents new technology has provided a systematic setup with no loopholes which is available at all times and requires no permit from State sources.

"As far as protection from the computer is concerned there can be no approval of the system where the Churches fall on the official assistance of the State."

Herr Birkelbach is not out to be provocative. He considers himself to be a warning voice, the man who wags his finger at the citizen and politician in good time and warns them to watch out for the dangers of misuse of computorised information and not to underestimate this so that it can be tackled at its roots.

He would like to feel that he is surrounded by sympathisers before computer technology has reached such a state of perfection that it is no longer possible to keep any kind of a watching eye over it.

He hopes for aid from politicians in Hesse who have done their fair share of pioneering work in this direction, and from Bonn.

He says that it is absolutely essential that protection from the potential evils of electronic data processing must be organised legally on a national basis. The measures that have already been taken and presented to Bonn are not sufficient to protect the ordinary citizen from attacks on the privacy of his personal affairs.

Hesse's computer ombudsman does not deny that the authorities must make continued and ever-increasing use of data processing if they are to carry out the mammoth tasks that face them. At the last count, at the end of last year, no less than eighty electronic data processing plants were registred in public offices in Hesse.

Estimates at the total number of computer banks in the Federal Republic as a whole, in official bureaux as well as in private companies, range from 12,000 to 22,000.

The man of the seventies is "programmed" whether he likes it or not. He can do nothing about it when data are collected and filed with all his personal details. But he should be able to ensure at least that this information does not get into the wrong hands and is not used to his detriment. This is what Herr Birkelbach hopes to achieve.

Following a visit to the United States Willi Birkelbach said in Wiesbaden that he had learned the theories of experts. Citizens who know that all kinds of information about themselves are kept in computers begin to feel as though they are a goldfish in a glass bowl constantly being watched.

A person who has such a feeling, Herr Birkelbach philosophises will not be able to feel free and act naturally. He hopes that the goldfish theory will make people make up and take notice at long last.

Alfred Behr

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 18 April 1973)

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countries are not even in a position to man them all.

The Soviet Union would doubtless have been happier had the countries of Europe convened on their own, but it is realistic enough to know that the Americans will not renounce their presence in Europe for the foreseeable future.

The proposed security conference will only have been a success when its results are hallmarked "Made in Europe" rather than "Made in the USSR."

Were the Easter recess, to have hammered this message home to socialist diplomats to such an extent that it made its mark, the first positive outcome of the Helsinki talks would have occurred.

And if the conference really is to begin in July it is high time the ambassadors headed for the home straight.

Siegfried Löffler

(Kieler Nachrichten, 26 April 1973)

Government and Opposition jostle for position in Bundesrat

Domestic policy controversies in the Federal Republic of late have been centring round a body that only catches the public interest sporadically – the Bundesrat.

As a rule this representative body of the Federal states carries out unexciting matter-of-fact work that misses the headlines. But of late this has changed, since the different balance of power in the Upper and Lower Houses has been increasingly annoying the government coalition.

The SPD and FDP feel that the slender majority of 21 to 20 the CDU/CSU have in the Bundesrat is holding up important legislation.

But the "union" parties are obviously not keen to give up this position of power in national politics and the opportunity of helping to make political decisions in Bonn.

Already all eyes are on the next provincial assembly elections, particularly in those states with a CDU or CSU government. Bavaria goes to the polls next year, Schleswig-Holstein, Rhineland-Palatinate in 1975.

Herbert Wehner, who knows a thing or two about strategy and where the emphasis must be laid, pointed out to Social Democrat party congress delegates in Hanover how important these elections will be for the creation of the majority in the Bundesrat.

Leading Free Democrats have spoken out just as forcefully. The Opposition in Bonn is bound to take up the challenge and so these 1974 and 1975 elections can be regarded as general elections in all but the area of the territories they affect.

Naturally enough this setup does not correspond to the purpose of our federalist constitutional structure which provides for coexistence of national and Federal state intestests with occasional conflicts of interest not being ruled out but Basic Law does not provide for a system in which the Federal states are a microcosm of the country as a whole.

The reality of the constitutional situation is somewhat different. This has been the case in earlier provincial assembly elections as well. What is new is that many SPD and FDP politicians are not content with possible shifts of majorities at forthcoming provincial assembly elections, but want to reform the Bundesrat itself after the event or even indeed before.

Their calculations are based on the shift of population that has come about since Basic Law came into force.

Wolfang Mischnick, chairman of the FDP Bundesrat party, pointed out a few days ago that in the SPD-governed Federal states and those where there is an SPD-FDP coalition 32.3 million people live while CDU/CSU-held states only have 27.1 million inhabitants, despite the fact that the CDU/CSU have their slight majority in the Bundesrat, a calculation that excludes Berlin with its partial voting rights.

Obviously Mischnick has shown that the balance drawn up in 1949 for the constitution of the Bundesrat on the basis of blocks of three to five votes for each state no longer tallies with the number of citizens represented.

Similar imbalances have been noted elsewhere, the United States for instance. There all federal states, whether large or small, send two senators to the Senate in Washington. If this principle were transferred to the Federal Republic there would be a stalemate of ten to ten in the Bundesrat. No one would seriously consider this.

What the SPD and FDP plan is either an overall solution such as the re-constitution of the Federal states that make up this country, an idea that has come to the fore again recently, or an alteration of the number of votes in the Bundesrat, as Hesse Premier Albert Osswald has suggested.

Both ideas are worthy of discussion but only over a long-term and certainly not loaded with majority and power interests. The pressure for speedy shifts of majorities was never a worthy counsellor of measures that require a constituional or structural reform.

In fact there is no question of this in the short-term. The drawing up of new state borders will be a long time coming, if it comes at all, as a result of various vested interests. As for a shift of importance of the Federal states' representation in the Bundesrat by means of amendments to Basic Law this is bound to fail in the foreseeable future as a result of the opposition mounted by the CDU/CSU.

The best thing is to wait until an alteration in the political situation makes non-controversial decisions devoid of durrent party calculations possible.

This means that the SPD and FDP in Bonn will have to live with the Bundesrat as it is today for some time to come. When voters in the Federal states go to the polls between 1974 and 1976 they will decide whose arguments are the most convincing.

The fronts have been drawn up and government and Opposition both view the battle for the Upper House as the most important trial of strength in the next few years.

Bernt Conrad

(Die Welt, 26 April 1973)

■ PEOPLE

Rudi Arndt – a tough man in a tough job

DIE ZEIT

Frankfurt is a unique city in the Federal Republic. To the gangsters and shysters in the area around the central station it is known as "Little Chicago" or "Little New York". Yet its banks and offices bring it the highest *per-capita income rate in this country and* the *highest* level of indebtedness. In Frankfurt, they say, you earn well and live badly.

To be Oberbürgermeister of Frankfurt is almost a punishment. One who held the position said it was murder and he could be right. Frankfurt mayors do not reach pensionable age. Herr Kolb died at 54, Herr Bockelmann at 60, Herr Brundert at 57 and Herr Möller at 51. Rudi Arndt is the fifth man to hold this position and he says it is a life's work.

Frankfurt is an SPD stronghold and a part of Hesse, two very incongruous characteristics. Nowhere else do SPD people come to blows so often as in Frankfurt. South Hesse is a particularly left-wing area of the party of the left. The Young Socialists are extraordinarily active and aggressive in the Hesse metropolis even without groups such as *Stamokap*.

Rudi Arndt said he would like to see them on psychiatrist's couch and when approached by a *Juso* he remarket that five or ten such excitements could knock a year off a person's life. On the death of his predecessor and freind Walter Möller from a heart attack he said: "It was the Jusos did him in, not the city."

Rudi Arndt was born in 1927. He was a scout-master, then an alderman, a member of the provincial assembly, head of parliamentary party, Minister for Economics and Transport in the State government and finally Finance Minister. When Möller died he had to step into his shoes: he certainly did not press to be offered this office. It was a sacrifice.

At first he said that electing him was a crass mistake. It was those who voted with a no that voted for him. It was not just that he would earn 40,000 Marks a year less – he was also aware that the career of the crown prince ended abruptly. His changeover from ministry to magistrature was an inroad into his political career that he says could scarcely be avoided. To be Oberbürgermeister of this city for six years is, if you stick it, half a life time.

Rudi is the name that appears on his birth certificate. It signifies his typically casual manner. He said that no more than three hours after taking office there would be fireworks, and he was right.

He earnt the nickname Dynamite Rudi when he said he would give a million Marks to anyone who blew up the ruins of Frankfurt's opera house. He is the sort of person who invites nicknames. He is as thick-skinned as an elephant, robost as an ice-breaker, loud as a lorry, temperamental as a tank, as highly charged as a rocket and as pugnacious as a boxer. When asked who he most admired he once said: "Max Schmeling." He provokes a fight out of natural and well-founded arrogance, knowing he knows more than the other man.

Coming from south Hesse he was naturally known as 'left-wing Rudi,' but recently he provoked a scene that made his friends in the party consider he had gone to the far right-wing: the battle with squatters in a Frankfurt house, to which he sent in the police, and which ended in a vote of no-confidence in him.

After the street battles between protestors and police, the fiercest in Frankfurt since the Easter riots of 1968, right and left-wing demanded "Arndt must go". His reaction: "Franz Josef Strauss and the Jusos – what an unholy alliance!"

This incident was distasteful to him. In his heart he was on the side of the protestors against property speculators and rapacious landlords, but he knew he *had to see that the law was carried out*, and answered force with force. In Frandfurt/Westend this protagonist of the "New Left" experienced something like the conversion on the road to Damascus.

He takes the Bad Godesberg Programme more at its word than many another, but during these riots he learnt the contradiction between demands and reality and saw that he had suddenly fallen between all possible stools. He was the left-wing progressive fighting on the side of law and order and his macabre sense of humour was of no help.

Without much hesitation Rudi Arndt accepts accusations that he is rather superficial and not too deep. For a while he was considered as a possible successor to Herbert Wehner as second-in-command of the SPD. Apart from his position on the hot-seat in Frankfurt which demands a whole man he does not particularly have a gift for integration and sets greater store by browbeating people round to his way of thinking rather than by friendly persuasion. Thanks to his forcefulness he has become the man he is.

Like Schmeling at his height he announced months ago in the hot-bed that is Frankfurt/Westend: "If anyone gets in my way I'll walk right over him!" Another remark attributed to him is: "When I take off my glasses you had better watch out!"

It nearly came to such a pass during the squatter riots when he and friends were hemmed in by angry demonstrators. His friends spoke of a lynching atmosphere.

At this moment in time when he was surrounded by the angry mob Rudi Arndt remembered a scene from the year 1933. He is not usually sentimental and does not normally show his feelings, but his memory from his youth haunts him. He said: "Those were the same twisted faces demanding violence."

Arndt still remembers every detail. "It was just six. There was a knock at the door of our house in Wiesbaden. I was in the bathroom and looked down into the hallway as my mother opened the door. Three men wanted to speak to my father who was then a trade union secretary. My father who weighed twenty stone came to the door and the SA thugs set upon him. At first he threw them off, but then they began stabbing him. One stab wound just missed his heart. I have never forgotten the faces of those men."

It was a year before Arndt's father was back on his feet again after this murder attempt. Later he was taken to Oranienburg concentration camp and in 1940 in France he was killed by the Gestapo. Officially he had died in an accident. The Arndt family received a coffin that was firmly sealed.

This too is part of the robust, reslute Rudi Arndt. He is a man who has his



(Photos: Sven Sim

private memories and personal experiences. The same man who in an emergency will rely on his fists and not just on his police dog and his pistol, which he generally leaves at home, although, we hear, he can use it better than the average police man. He is a tough man in a tough job.

He rarely suffers from doubts and has full confidence in himself. Perhaps he has the stuff that will enable him to achieve his aim of making Frankfurt a human city.

The acid test will be whether the SPD survives the rifts in Hesse. Arndt says that these affect him physically and psychologically. He does not like having to take a hatchet against those with whom he has worked and for whom he felt himself responsible for many years.

Rudi Arndt could even become another Hans-Jochen Vogel, a popular mayor of a big city. He accepts criticism even when it is as fierce as it was during the Frankfurt riots. He needs criticism and he knows it.

Dietrich Strothmann

(Die Zeit, 13 April 1973)

Kai-Uwe von Hassel – former President of the Bundestag

Kai-Uwe von Hassel celebrated his 60th birthday on 21 April this year. He created the greatest impression in his long and varied political career in the office of Bundestag President.

It was in January 1969 that he took up this position, followng on the heels of Eugen Gerstenmaier. At the time there were hefty objections raised by the SPD and these were expressed in the result of the election.

Less than a year later, after the general election of September 1969, he was re-elected with a massive majority after the SPD, with a certain degree of effort (and outside help) had resisted the temptation to dispense with an old parliamentary party in the Bundestag providing the Bundestag President.

Herr von Hassel thus found himself in the difficult role of presiding over a Bundestag in which he was a member of the strongest parliamentary party, a party in opposition to a governing coalition with a very slender majority.

In this difficult position Herr von Hassel was respected by friends and opponents alike for being completely non-partisan and conducting parliamentary affairs and heading parliamentary authorities fairly. This is particularly difficult to achieve considering the parliamentary traditions in this country since the Bundestag President cannot withdraw completely from political debates.

Herr von Hassel managed to avoid both



affording privileged treatment to his own party and an opportunity to those on the government side who would gladly tear him apart for doing so.

His father was a planter and officer in the militia in German East Africa. He held many important political positions in his youth. Herr von Hassel was one of the first politicians to make a name for himself in this country after the war.

Politics captured him in its spell in 1945. He had come to Germany with his family after World War I. They settled in Glücksburg, near Flensburg, where Herr von Hassel still has a country home. He returned to East Africa (Tanganyika) after special training and became business manager of estates there.

He returned to Germany in 1940 and he served in the army, reaching the rank of lieutenant and at war's end he returned to Glücksburg and joined the CDU.

After holding various offices in local government Herr von Hassel became a member of the Kiel provincial assembly in 1950. He entered the Bundestag in 1953 but left it a year later to become head of the Schleswig-Holstein government, a position he held until 1962.

The first defficult job he had was in the Bonn Defence Ministry from the end of 1962, after the post of Defence Minister was vacated by Franz Josef Strauss.

At the end of 1966 the Grand Coalition was formed and von Hassel took the portfolio of Minister for Expellees, the Ministry he headed until he became Bundestag President.

Despite initial scepticism, which is often expessed when a man steps into a position as an emergency substitute, Kai-Uwe von Hassel gained status impressively in this office and did great work towards improving Bundestag procedures.

It was with great dignity that he accepted relegation to the position of Vice-President, showing the dignity that he had shown before when faced with many a personal blow from Fate. He stepped down from President to Vice-President last year when the CDU lost their position as the strongest parliamentary party.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 21 April 1973)

■ ARMED FORCES

Bundeswehr Commissioner wants more power

The latest report on the state of the armed forces submitted to the Bundestag by Free Democrat Fritz Rudolf Schultz, the Commissioner for the Bundeswehr, paints a picture that must be most unwelcome to right-wing critics.

The critics, who never tire of making the armed forces out to be on the brink of collapse, with discipline on the decline and the undermining influence of left-wing extremists on the increase, are roundly refuted.

Herr Schultz has, when all is said and done, gained his impression that discipline has, over the past year, far from declining, improved in many places on 1971, not at the conference table but in the course of tours of inspection as the armed forces' civilian commissioner.

In 1972 he visited Bundeswehr units on no fewer than 71 occasions, interviewing members of the forces of all ranks. What is more, Schultz was once a professional soldier and Wehrmacht officer himself and as a right-wing Free Democrat of conservative views, his assessment can be rated above all suspicion.

Accusations that the armed forces are being undermined by left-wing extremists are likewise toned down by Fritz Rudolf Schultz. He notes that attempts are continually undertaken, particularly by Communist groups, to gain influence among the ranks, but considers the problem not to be unduly alarming.

It would, however, be wrong to imagine that the Commissioner's report on the state of the armed forces is no more than a rejoinder to accusations of indiscipline and the like.

Refuting allegations of this kind is not his job, nor should it be. The main task of the Commissioner for the Armed Forces is to ensure that soldiers' basic rights are not overridden and that the principles of inner leadership are upheld.

The number of offences in this context seem to be steadily on the decline. Senior officers are immediately punished on proof being provided that they have overstepped the mark in dealings with their juniors. This, though, is no reason for calling it a day.

One might imagine that the post of Armed Forces Commissioner is not a controversial one. Schultz, after all, is the fourth man to serve in the post since it was first established in 1958. Yet he still encounters resistance on the part of a number of military men who try to make life more difficult for him.

This is due in part to the vague terms of reference embodied in the instrument setting up the post. It is understandable that Herr Schultz is keen on an amendment being made to the Act to outline his responsibilities in greater detail.

The Commissioner does not feel himself to be a "wailing wall" for the man in uniform. He would like to be a person the troops can approach when, as at times is the case, they feel unable to cope with the red tape and are either unaware of their rights or not confident that they can state their case.

The further the progress made by technology in the armed forces, the less likelihood there is of the individual being subjected to ill-treatment of the kind traditionally associated with parade-ground sergeants and the like.

Regulations have, however, assumed such alarming proportions and individuals can so easily be hopelessly ensnared by them, not to mention sentenced to routine punishments that are somewhat out of proportion to minor transgressions that the institution of Armed Forces Commissioner remains as pertinent today as it was in the early days of the Bundeswehr.

Times have, of course, changed. The days of the Nagold scandal (relentless discipline leading to the death of a soldier stationed with the paratroops more than a decade ago) are over and done with.

More personal problems are now the rule, accommodation or trouble over a posting. In many instances the Commissioner can ensure a more humane solution dealing the individual greater justice.

In the early years the Commissioner was synonymous with, let us say, dumb insolence on the part of both the troops and right-wing politicians, both of whom were uneasy at the idea of civilian intervention in the conduct of military affairs.

This state of affairs is now largely a thing of the past. The Commissioner is now entitled to answer parliamentary queries concerning his report. Debate is no longer postponed and conveniently forgotten.

Parliament ought now to go a step further and equip the Commissioner with further-reaching responsibility. Prevention is better than cure. This old adage is undoubtedly true of many injustices to which the Commissioner has in the past only been able to react, whereas prior intervention might well have prevented situations from arising.

Ulrich Mackensen

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 14 April 1973)

Married men with families excused military service

From July next married men with families will no longer be called up for military service, the Defence Ministry in Bonn has ruled. Ministry spokesman Harry Wildermuth stated on 12 April that this dispensation was not a matter of principle, however.

Men with wives and children will in future only be liable to conscription provided that there are not enough single men around the country to maintain unit strength. This, Wildermuth commented, was a fairly unlikely state of affairs.

The new ruling is designed to prevent unnecessary hardship for young families. It will also facilitate service life, since no special attention need be paid to the requirements of married men in allotting leave and weekend duties, for instance.

The number of youngsters likely to be affected by the ruling is estimated at some five per cent of a year's intake. The current conscript year, men born in 1953, amounts to a potential intake of 347,000, some 17,000 of whom will be excused military service as a result.

Ulrich Mackensen

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 13 April 1973)

Bundeswehr Commissioner's 1972 report

Fritz Rudolf Schultz, the Bundestag's Armed Forces Commissioner, again advocated clarification and extension of his responsibilities at a press conference held in Bonn on 13 April to mark the publication of his annual report for 1972.

The finishing touches must be put to the Act as a result of which the post was first set up in 1958, he claimed. His own wishes were as follows:

1. The Armed Forces Commissioner ought to be entitled to question witnesses, since this would make his work far easier.

2. The Commissioner's stand-in ought to be the highest-ranking civil servant in his office, since the chairman of the military service commission, his nominal deputy, was not in practice able to do so.

3. The Commissioner ought to be entitled to intervene as soon as there is a threat of a basic right being infringed on, as this would enable him to usefully extend his activities and not have to wait until injustice had been seen to be done.

The Armed Forces Commissioner has no intention of seeking permission to investigate conduct within the Federal Border Patrol, though.

In commenting on his annual report the Commissioner specially noted that his call for consolidation of basic rights in the Bundeswehr was in part intended to pillory ignorance of civil rights among the general public. (Die Welt, 14 April 1973)

Reform proposals for Bundeswehr criticised as uneconomic

Süddeutsche Zeitung

Direct military expenditure provided for by the terms of the 1973 budget amounts to 26,500 million Marks. According to Finance Minister Helmut Schmidt, erstwhile Minister of Defence, this sum is sufficient to ensure that this country meets its obligations to Nato.

This substantial sum even goes so far as to slightly improve on the figure suggested last November by the armed forces structural commission headed by Social Democratic Bundestag member Karl Mommer.

A leeway of thirty per cent thus remains for the purchase of new weapons systems, as against the seventy per cent of the estimates that will go on the day-to-day running of the armed forces.

This ratio is designed to ensure that the Bundeswehr does not suddenly appear to be an arms museum. In the long term, though, the structural commission feels, it can only be maintained under two conditions.

The first is that the proportion of government expenditure on defence allocations remains constant at a level of sixteen per cent between now and 1981. This would mean defence expenditure of 30,000 million Marks by 1975 and 45,000 million in 1980.

The second involves the reduction of the army to what is termed a cadre army. Only two dozen brigades will remain fully operational, the remaining dozen continuing at half-cock but being capable of resuming full operations within three days of mobilisation with the addition of 42,000 conscripts.

This concept seemed to be a little overconfident as far as cash being forthcoming was concerned when the proposal was first mooted. Another study has since been published that casts frankly-expressend doubts about the feasibility of these compromise proposals.

The study, dealing with the new armed forces structure in the Federal Republic, is the work of economist Gerd Hardewig, a member of the Munich environmental and crisis research group.

After reviewing the financial assumptions on which the commission's proposals are based, Hardewig voices criticism of the reforms suggested on three main counts:

Firstly, so he claims, the defence allocations envisaged are unrealistic. By 1980 the Bundeswehr can expect budget estimates to the tune of 38,900 million Marks at the most, and by no means the 45,600 million the commission has in mind.

Secondly, the commission is claimed to have underrated by far the likely increases in personnel costs.

Thirdly, the thirty-per-cent threshold for purchase of new weapons system, considered to be an absolute minimum, was in point of fact passed in a downward direction as long ago as 1971, and the likelihood of the armed forces being able to beg the issue of increasing running costs on the one hand and essential capital investment on the other is negligible.

From this Hardewig concludes that changes in the structure of the armed forces are indeed urgently necessary, but that the cadre principle is not the solution to the problem. Putting a brigade in mothballs would effect a saving in running costs of a mere 130 million Marks a year.

This would at best postpone further changes by a few years. The Munich military economist's counter-proposal is to drastically rationalise personnel expenditure, particularly on the administrative side.

Already the Bundeswehr employs one civilian aide for every two and a half soldiers. An embargo on further staff expenditure (all reforms involving additional staff pending must be cancelled) does not entirely satisfy Hardewig, though.

Foreign and security policy misgivings notwithstanding, Hardewig seems no alternative to reducing the Bundeswehr's complement and considers a review of Nato obligations to be indispensable.

A militia or territorial army contingent is an idea that does not appeal to Hardewig for both financial and domestic policy reasons. "Consenpt armies," his study states, "are and will continue to be the least expensive option."

In view of the baby bulge that is currently passing through school and will soon be liable to conscription the Munich economist feels that greater attention must be paid to ensuring a fair deal in call-up, particularly as young people are likely to be less and less enthusiastic about doing military service.

The Federal government, he claims, has two choices. Either it stands by its current commitment to the principle of general conscription in order to keep the numerical strength of the armed forces at a tolerable level or it decides to introduce a standing, professional army.

The professional army would be far smaller in number, approximately 320,000 strong on the basis of the current staff allocations, as against the half million conscripts and regular soldiers in the armed forces as they now stand.

Gradually, however, this professional army would shrink still further as its personnel costs shot up. Thus the only viable alternative would be to retain the present system while reducing the numerical strength of the armed forces.

This report deals mainly with financial aspects of the problem. The politician has a harder time of it. How is he to make the most political capital out of an unavoidable reduction in the size of the armed forces, negotiating, say, similar cuts in the strength of Warsaw Pact forces?

Should Hardewig's criticism of the accounting by the armed forces structural reform commission be borne out the commission would have done both the Bundeswehr and the general public a bad turn in recommending a principle (the cadre system) that is not feasible.

It would serve merely to paper over the cracks in the system and waste time. The debate continues.

Christian Potyka

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 6 April 1973)

■ FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

Institutes' four-point plan to stem inflation

Economic research institutes have called for a comprehensive and far-reaching programme of stabilisation containing a general tax surcharge, so as to check the continued spiral of price rises. In a report presented to Bonn recently by four of the five institutes in the study group of Federal Republic Economic Research Institutes the economic experts give four guidelines for turning the tide of price rises.

- *A continued credit squeeze,*
- Siphoning off of purchasing power by means of a general tax surcharge,
- Cuts in government spending,
- Drastic cuts in EEC import tariffs.

The institutes admit that this strategy could lead to what they call a stabilisation crisis coupled with unemployment and bankruptcies. Whether it will come to such a pass depends on how quickly wages and prices toe the line.

The institutes would not rule out exchange rate measures on the part of the government if other EEC countries do not make similar efforts to restore stability.

According to the five institutes this country's economy is going through a massive boom which should continue for the rest of the year. This has been caused by a phenomenal increase in demand from abroad, increased productivity, capital investments, the jobs market and the development of incomes in the Federal Republic.

The institutes fear that the rate of price rises will not drop below six per cent in the second half of the year. Higher import prices, increased wage costs per unit and companies' efforts to improve their profit margins were leading to an acceleration of the price spiral.

The institutes foresee the danger that by the end of this year this development will lead to demands of over ten per cent at the next round of wage-scale negotiations. Nor is it possible to rule out premature wage demands in certain sectors to offset price rises unless Bonn and the Bundesbank take additional steps.

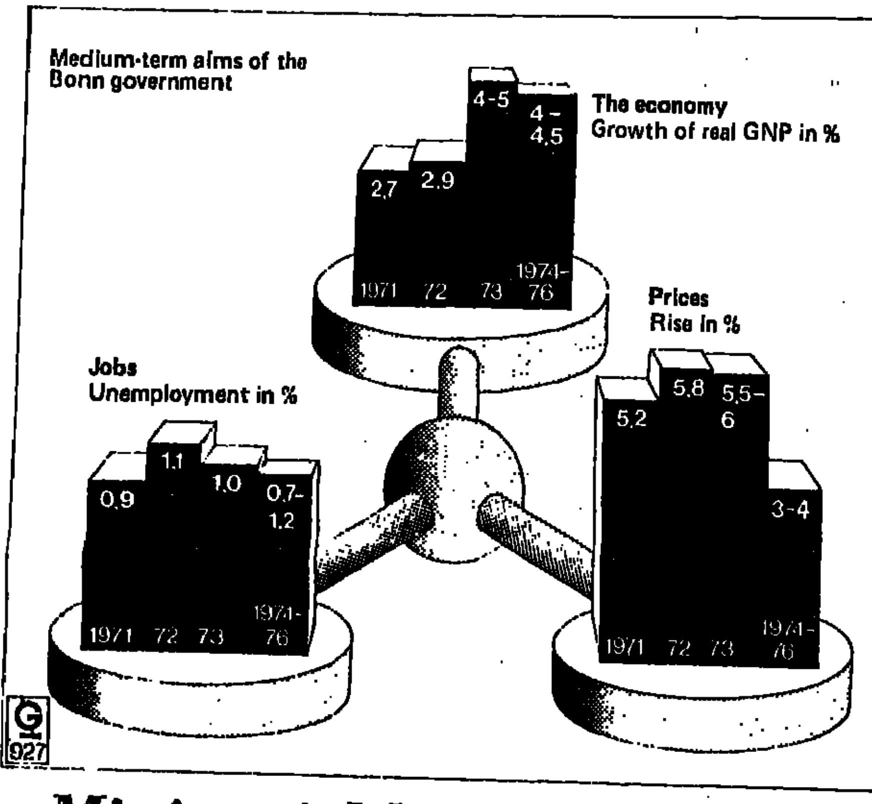
The objection that stabilisation cannot be achieved on a national basis is de-fused by the institutes, which point out that other countries have succeeded in stabilising their economies. The institutes stress that to peg even the present rate of inflation it will be essential to introduce additional restrictive measures.

The Federal Institute for Economic Research (DIW), Berlin, agrees by and large with the situation report drawn up by the Institute for Economic Research, (Hamburg), Ifo (Munich), the Institute for International Economic Research (Kiel) and the Rhineland-Westphalia Institute, Essen.

DIW, however, is not in favour of a general tax surcharge, pointing out that a large sector of the labour force is contenting itself with minor wage-scale increases until year's end and that the unexpectedly high rise in prices has led these workers to make further sacrifices. Additional taxation would mean that a voluntary stabilisation pact would be impossible in the near future and would lessen even further the declining influence of the State on wages policies.

A high level of government borrowing is recommended to cut public purchasing power and the level of investments by industry, and DIW would like to see additional pre-payments of income tax and corporation tax as well as the freezing of additional revenue paid to local governments.

(Neue Hannoversche, 17 April 1973)



Ministerial hopes ride high for stability

Finance Minister Helmut Schmidt and Economic Affairs Minister Hans Friderichs both staed recently that they were confident the government would be able to bring off its programme of economic stabilisation.

Schmidt said on a radio interview that he expected the government to be able to push through its taxation policy. The Bundesrat legislation which only affects the wealthy and those drawing very high incomes. If the Federal states do appeal against the increase in petrol tax the Bundestag can override them.

Helmut Schmidt said that "in the course of time" the Federal states would need more money to help them finance their increased expenditure. He said that in this respect Bonn would link together the demands made by the states for a larger share of the tax cake and the decision on increases in taxation that would become necessary in this context.

The Parliamentary State Secretary to the Finance Ministry Hans Hermsdorf takes the view that the government does not require any tax increases for 1974 "if the present balance between government and Federal states with regard to taxes is maintained". If the Federal states' demand for a higher cut is met, however, it will not be possible, in his view, to avoid increasing taxation and ensuring an increase in revenue.

Herr Friderichs calculates that in the near future there will be indications whether the government's efforts to restore stability have met with success. Bonn's policy is based on the assumption that the limits of agreements between the two sides of industry as already negotiated will not be exceeded in the course of the year. This we shall soon know.

At the opening of the 25th International Tradesmen's Fair in Munich Hans Friderichs stressed that if it is not possible to restore stability "then the time will come when we no longer have to discuss whether we should keep the present economic system".

The new president of the Tradesmen's Association Paul Schnitker said that tradesmen were prepared to make sacrifices for the sake of stability. He said that businessmen should finally reject the fetish of continual growth.

(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 9 April 1973)

Bundesbank fights high loan rates

The Central Bank Committee of the Bundesbank decided on 12 April, was was expected, that finance houses in this country should be given cash aid, in order to cut the "exotic" rates of interest at present existing on money markets.

Bank President Karl Klasen, speaking at a press conference, stated that the CBC would be adhering to its stringent credit restrictions with the *full* governmental approval.

Two weeks prior to this it had been stated that interest rates of twenty per cent on day-to-day loans were a passing phase and not a permanent fixture. For this reason the Bundesbank is now seeking to buy from finance houses convertible bonds with a currency of ten days each to an unlimited extent. An initial interest rate of twelve per cent per annum would be charged, while the finance houses, for instance if there were at a level of five per cent within the scope of their rediscount quotas when disposing of convertible bonds. If supply becomes too great as a result of the new measures it is possible that the interest rate will be increased, Karl Klasen said.

This procedure means that the Bundesbank maintains its flexibility when providing finance houses with cash. This flexibility will be maintained even if there are large floods of foreign exchange from this country. Also the Bundesbank hereby keeps the initiative, which could have passed to a certain extent to the finance houses for instance if there were an increase in refinancing quotas.

Klasen stressed that the special regulations that come into force in the case of unavoidable cutbacks in cash

Hannoversche Allgemeine

available and make it possible for the Lombard "plunsoll lines" to be exceeded would once again be implemented.

Klasen confirmed that the Bundesbank had filtered cash into the banking system again via the Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau. This was to counteract the temporary withdrawal of funds which pass at the end of each month to public funds via the accounts of the Bundesbank.

Replying to a further question the Bank President stated that there was no intention of improving quotations for its own treasury bonds by raising interest rates in the financing business.

The salary-scale agreement reached in the printing industry was described by Herr Klasen as "a small step in the right direction".

The CBC also ratified the annual report of the Bundesbank for 1972; despite the Bank's heavy losses through alterations in parity it is not about to go bankrupt, Klasen stressed! This question was raised by Friedrich Wilhelm von Schelling, the President of the Hamburg State Central Bank and a member of the CBC.

Herr Klasen explained that the statements made by Herr von Schelling on this complex had for the most part been misunderstood by the public. There were "no differences of opinion on the CBC", as was borne out by the unanimous ratification of the annual report.

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 13 April 1973)

Inflation makes tax system unfair

Nordwest Zeitung

The presidium of the Federal Taxpayers Association published a report on 12 April on the problems of depreciation in the value of money and taxation laws. Their report studies and analyses the increase in the burden of taxation on salary earners in the higher income brackets.

The rapid rate of inflation in the past few weeks and months — about seven per cent in March — is bringing the State more revenue. The burden has to be borne by the long-suffering taxpayer.

This country's taxation laws work on the so-called normal value principle, namely that one Mark is worth the same as another. This is a fallacy that cannot be tolerated at a time when the purchasing power of the currency is being whittled away so rapidly as at present. It is leading more and more to distortions and injustices in the division of the tax burden.

The main points at which these distortions occur involve the taxation of interest on capital and current income tax. This is a process that continues apace, and will continue to do so until the State does something about it.

Bonn sees this development differently, however. The government takes the point of view that it is in no way obliged to make good the losses people incur on their savings in this way. These losses are purely chimeric, the government says, the benefits accruing, such as savings premiums, and taxation benefits are not taken into account.

The government's thesis must not be taken as the last word if taxation is to be just. Legislators must act as quickly as possible to rectify these injustices. The distortions have reached such a pass that the government can scarcely adjust income taxes to the rate of galloping inflation by lowering the rates and increasing tax-free allowances or deflating the incomes that are liable to tax.

It is high time Bonn made some steps in this direction. Its present attitude is causing a crisis of confidence in the fairness of our tax system. *Hans Becker*

(Nordwest Zeitung, 13 April 1973)

■ INDUSTRY

Steel producers regard boom with controlled optimism

Latest statistics released by the Federal Statistics Office in Wiesbaden and its branch office in Düsseldorf showed that in 29 working days in March this year 4,360,000 tons of crude steel were produced. In the previous month 26 days were worked. The March figure was in fact a new record for the number of working days in a month and for the amount of steel produced. The increase in monthly production on February this year was 16.8 per cent and the increase in the daily average production was 3.8 per cent. In the first quarter of this year steel production was 12,010,000 tons, an increase of 17.5 per cent on the January–March period of 1972.

Only operators of ski-lifts in Mittelgebirge can claim for themselves the dubious honour of such marked ups and downs in employment and turnover as this country's steel industry. Unlike overall economic development this branch of the economy, which sinks or swims with overall industrial development, being a supplier of raw materials, failed to chalk up a continuous upward trend.

This is the first year in which steel production figures in the Federal Republic will overtake those of 1969. In that year 45.3 million tons were produced, a new record. Only two years later in 1971 production had plunged by a full five million tons. Much more serious than the inroads into production is the loss of profits involved in 1971 and last year all companies operated in the red.

Obviously steel production only brings in good money once in a blue moon when a worldwide economic boom encourages high productivity and high prices. 1969 was the last time this happened, but to a certain extent a step in the right direction could be made this year.

Only 'to a certain extent' because the first months of this year have still given no grounds for rejoicing. In-coming orders have reached astronomical heights, but prices have soared while supplies are made at the same conditions prevailling before the beginning of the latest boom.

Hans-Jörg Sendler, Chairman of the Board of Klöckner Werke, stated recently that his company was still in the red and would only begin to be profitable from April at the earliest.

A more positive report was issued by the leading firm in this branch, August Thyssenhütte. Thyssen reckon with approximately a nil balnce for the first half of the business year commencing 1 October 1972, although October to December brought heavy losses.

It is fairly certain, however, that any profits made in 1972-1973 will not be *sufficient* to cancel out losses made in previous years. Klöckner, for instance, in 1970-1971 and 1971-1972, with a turnover, a fairly typical figure for this made losses of about fifty million Marks, although losses in steel production were even higher — processing of steel helped to finance production of the raw material. Losses were two per cent of turnover, a fairly typical figure for this branch of industry.

The new boom which has undeniably begun is therefore not creating euphoria among steel bosses. They are firmly of the opinion that they must make as much this year and next as a hedge against the next recession which is expected in 1975. All depends on the profits they can make in these two years to finance investments.

Up till now Federal Republic foundries have avoided creaming off as much as possible in the years of plenty. They have, indeed, made customers in this country pay up smartly but have avoided channeling large quantities of steel into the more lucrative export trade so as to avoid supply shortages in the Federal Republic.

In return they expect a certain amount of loyality from their customers guaranteeing them sales on the domestic market at a reasonable price even during hard times.

So far this pricing policy has only paid off for foreign competitors. The proportion of imported steel in this country in the boom year 1969 was only 25.5 per cent, but during last year's recession it increased to 34.2 per cent. Conversely this country's steel industry only exported 27 per cent of its production in 1969 while last year this was up to 34 per cent.

Export prices in 1969 were considerably higher than the profits achieved in the Federal Republic, while in 1972 they were considerably lower. Clients in this country who were well served by the industry in 1969 turned to foreign producers in 1972 because they offered steel at lower prices.

At the moment foundries in this country are not faced with the question of whether they should neglect the home market and force the pace in exports. Although world market prices have increased considerably they are still below this country's prices for the domestic market.

But with the worldwide boom in steel it is only a matter of time before this situation has been reversed. Only then will we be able to see whether steel salesman take their wares to the market that offers them the highest prices.

Manufacturers of steel are not completely free when it comes to decision-making. Large-scale consumers of steel, such as the automobile industry, protect themselves with contracts. But smaller steel users, which have had a few flirtations in the past are now faced with the possible danger that they will have to continue buying their steel abroad even though prices are higher.

Pricing policy in the industry has not been able to prevent producers in this country losing prestige on the international scene. It is obvious that our sales of steel on the world market will decline when more and more countries are producing their own. This is a fate that the Federal Republic shares with countries such as the United States, Britain and France. But while our share of world production dropped from ten per cent in 1960 to seven per cent last year the Belgians, whose position does not favour them in any way, have increased their slice of this particular cake in the same period from 2.1 to 2.3 per cent. Belgium's production level has doubled and goes far beyond what the country can use.

In the Federal Republic steel companies are not expansion-happy, despite the steel boom. Hans-Günther Sohl, the head of Thyssen, has said that as far as Thyssens are concerned the upper limit of crude steel production in the Federal Republic is fifteen to sixteen million tons.

It is not only at Thyssens that forthcoming investments will be directed towards cost reductions than expansion. It will not always be possible to get round making increases in production capacity. Today steel production factories often have as large a capacity on their own as a whole group of plants within a company once had.

The new giant blast furnace of the Thyssen group is capable of producing 3,500,000 tons of pig-iron every year — Klöckner produced in all little more than two million tons od crude iron last business year.

On the other hand mini-steel-plants such as Korf work very successfully as long as they specialise in a few products and are located favourably. They cannot compete with their big brothers in the sphere of metal production, but in the production of wire for instance they have the more favourable production potential with their lower output. As the market for specialised products is limited this enables the firms in question to cut freighting costs.

Herr Sendler, the head of Klöckner, said that the latest steel boom has only helped to cover up the problems the industry is experiencing. He is quite right — in the past twenty years the fat months have grown more few-and-far-between, while the periods of famine have streched.

It is still true to say that the times when our foundries are unable to compete are temporary. But this could

DIE ZEIT

develop into a permanent inability to compete if costs are not kept in check by investments for rationalisation.

Of course the price of coke has a decisive role to play. Last business year Thyssens paid 56 Marks for solid fuel — coke — for every ton of crude steel they produced. After the latest alterations to parities American coal, which is vital if competitive prices are to be maintained, has become considerably cheaper. Ruhrkohle is unable to bridge this gap without some kind of outside assistance.

It is inevitable that the taxpayer will be bidden to step into this breach again. The alternative would be a second industry in the Ruhr with structural faults. But even this cannot prevent the image of the steel industry taking a hefty dent. The latest boom cannot last forever — the next crisis will come sooner or later.

Heinz-Günter Kemmer

(Die Zeit, 6 April 1973)

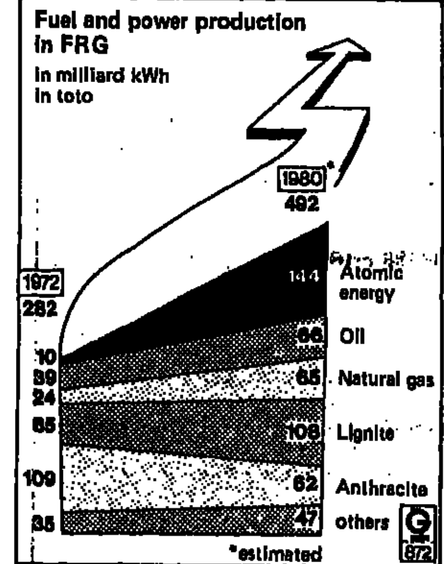
Plenty of uranium sellers hover round Bonn

Helping hands are being stretched out from all sides towards this country as the leading exponent of peaceful atomic power in Western Europe. The hands are filled with enriched uranium produced in isotope separation plants and used as fuel in the most modern nuclear reactor power stations of the light water series.

By 1980 these should be providing a quarter of this country's fuel and power requirements and thus lessening our need for oil, dependence on which makes us vulnerable in times of crisis.

Light water reactors require up to about five per cent enriched uranium. The plants required to produce this are at present exclusively in military hands. Fuel requirements of non-nuclear countries of the Western World are ensured by America alone. Britain's and France's isotope separation plants have in the past supplied enriched uranium solely for nuclear weapons.

It came as a surprise recently when the French stated that they could supply fuel from their uranium enriching plant in Pierrelatte for this country's reactors by 1980–1982, offering the required 3,000 tons of enriched uranium at a price of between 32 and 36 dollars, the same price as that quoted by the Americans.



At the same time, however, we hear that the Soviet Union is ready to supply fuel for this country's nuclear power stations somewhat cheaper. Negotiations are at present under way involving the head of the "supply agency", Felix Oboussier in Washington. This is his responsibility since all militarily non-nuclear EEC countries are only able to buy fissionable fuel through the agency, a rule that applies to Britain and France and their peaceful atomic reactors.

But in this respect Paris has for years been flaunting the provisions of Eratom. There is also a British-Dutch-Federal Republic body "Urenco" offering its services.

These three countries hope that by the mid-seventies they will be able to enrich uranium by a more modern process than in the past at two plants.

Bonn has a difficult decision to make. Ensuring supplies and arranging guarantees that nuclear fuel will indeed be available by 1980 will shortly be the central theme of talks between representatives of this country's electricity authority, the government, the EEC supply agency and the Atomic Energy Commission in Paris (CEA). This matter is already going through the mills of politics.

It is possible that Bonn will fall among all stools. It will provide funds towards the construction of ultra-centrifuge fuel manufacturing plants — so how can it decide on a competitive procedure? Paris could become angry and what will the United States say when they fail to obtain desperately needed foreign exchange from the sale of enriched uranium to this country? We are saving ourselves by exercising economic reason, demanding a guaranteed supply of fuel at the lowest possibel price and no consideration where it comes from.

Hermann Bohle

(Der Tagesspiegel, 6 April 1973)

■ ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Baltic Pollution Study Year gets under way

Environmental pollution, and in particular its repercussions on the sea, is a topic on which everyone is in principle agreed. Yet to this day the degree of pollution of not a single sea has been subjected to scrutiny. The first that is likely in the foreseeable future to be analysed in any detail is the Baltic.

Countries with Baltic coastlines and the International Commission on Ocean Studies (ICES) in Copenhagen are currently engaged in a major joint research project designed to be implemented in 1975 in the wake of thorough preliminaries that are already well under way.

1975 is to be Baltic Pollution Study Year and all available research vessel capacity, not to mention laboratories and scientists, is to be placed at its disposal.

All conceivable factors are to be examined so thoroughly in all environmental sectors of the Baltic that a balance of the toxic circuit can be struck, allowing of conclusions as to the measures that can be adopted to keep the Baltic alive and kicking, as it were.

One of the headquarters of this project is Kiel, the capital of this country's northernmost state of Schleswig-Holstein and itself a Baltic port. The city's university department of oceanology is heavily involved in the Baltic pollution research project.

Within the framework of the project seawater, the organic creatures and organic residue floating in the water, marine animals that both swim and live on the seabed and the sediment on the seabed itself are to be checked for potentially poisonous heavy metals such as mercury, cadmium, lead and copper, for traces of petroleum and petroleum products, for toxic weedkillers and for effluent.

Not only the mere existence of these toxins will be examined. Their progress from little fish to big fish, as it were, and their effect when concentrated in the bodies of larger animals will also be traced.

It is a known fact, for instance, that poisons such as the carbon chlorides, a highly toxic family of insecticides, are readily stored in the fat and livers of fish, while mercury and cadmium mainly concentrate in fishes' ovaries and gonads.

The upshot is that only certain organs need to be analysed to determine whether or not concentrations of certain substances have formed. Simiarly, only these organs need to be avoided, since the remaining organs and tissues will not be affected and accordingly, one imagines, be fit for human consumption.

As far as most toxins are concerned, though, their progress through creatures' systems is as yet a closed book. Fundamental research is thus in progress in this context.

Work of a similarly pioneering character is to be carried out in the context of the poisonous effects of heavy metals. *For the first time a systematic* check is to be made not only of their existence but also of their condition.

The toxic nature of many metals depends on whether or not they remain pure metals or have been converted into chemical compounds and on the substances with which they have been compounded.

More detailed studies of Baltic currents than ever before conducted are also to be carried out in order to check the health rating of the seawater.

The aim is to determine, for instance, how much flows across into the North Sea, how much effluent is stored away in the depths of the Baltic and the extent to which the depths of the Baltic are threatened by increasing putrefaction.

For the hydrographic part of the research programme the flagship of the Federal Republic's fleet of research vessels, the *Meteor*, will the first time work in the Baltic, plying Baltic waters for several weeks in conjunction with the *Anton Dohrn*. Automatic measurements will sound out the dynamics of the seawater.

In Baltic Pollution Study Year the Soviet Union is also likely to station one of its large research vessels in this part of the world.

Preliminary work for 1975 is being supervised mainly by two working parties, the one being a group coordinating the technical and analytical resources of the Baltic research scientists (laboratories and equipment) and headed by Professor Grasshoff, the Kiel marine chemist, which will hold its next meeting in Gdynia, Poland, in May.

The second group, headed by Professor Bolin of Stockholm, will compile research plans and coordinate project work. This second working party is to hold a meeting in Kiel in June.

(Kieler Nachrichten, 18 April 1973)

Water shortage threat by the turn of the century

By the turn of the century 93,600 million cubic metres of water will, it is estimated, be used per year in this country alone. In 1970 this figure was a mere 32,500 million.

The lion's share will be used by industrial consumers. Even in the year 2000 private households will account for a mere 6,000 million cubic metres per annum.

Even if industrial consumers recycle two thirds of the water they use the likely increase in consumption is so substantial that water-table reserves in this country are likely to be completely exhausted over the next three decades.

This forecast is made by research staff of the Battelle Institute of Frankfurt am Main in a report on the progress of desalination all over the world.

According to the Frankfurt boffins desalination of seawater will assume ever greater significance once the technological problems that currently make desalination an uneconomic proposition on a large scale have been overcome.

The major regions that currently stand to benefit most from desalination plant are the Arabian peninsula, the European countries bordering on the Mediterranean and the Islands of the West Indies.

By the mid-eighties desalination capacity is also expected to have increased by leaps and bounds in Israel and built-up areas of Japan.

The fresh water processed in this way will primarily be used by industrial consumers. The Frankfurt research scientists feel the economic use of desalination for agricultural purposes to be an unlikely proposition despite water shortages.

At present water supplies are still sufficient, the report states, but there are already bottlenecks at various times of the year and in certain regions in this country. In a number of regions the quality of the water provided is also unsatisfactory.

As demand increases the experts expect water shortages to occur in ten conurbations around the country, the areas in question being Bremen, Hamburg, Hanover, Munich, Nuremberg, the Rhine-Main region, the Rhine and the Ruhr, the Saar and Stuttgart.

Bremen and Hamburg, both being within easy reach of the coast, could well be supplied with desalinated water. Plans have been debated in both cities for some time but decisions have yet to be reached.

The two cities each have substantial amounts of water on their doorsteps in the shape of the Weser and Elbe rivers, but the waters of both are so polluted that they cannot be utilised to the required extent.

The major drawback of desalination as yet is the cost, so much so that Hamburg is already considering long-term plans to import fresh water from Scandinavia.

As regards the remaining prospective water-shortage regions around the country the only hope is surface water. These reserves of water in rivers and lakes are already increasingly being called upon.

In 1963 only ten per cent of river and lake water was, it is estimated, channelled off into reservoirs and the water grid. The current Frankfurt estimate is that the present proportion exceeds 39 per cent.

Industrial growth in recent decades has, moreover, contributed to increasing pollution of just these natural resources of much-needed water. Not only the Weser and the Elbe are too polluted to be of much use. The same applies to surface water in nearly all of the areas that are likely to run short.

Klaus Viedebantt

(Nordwest Zeitung, 17 April 1973)

Common Market's environmental protection initiativ[e]

Within two years an environm[ental] conservation programme is to [be] submitted for joint legislation to the member-governments of the Euro[pean] Common Market by the EEC Comm[ission] in Brussels, European Commissio[ner] Carlo Scarascio-Mugnozza told repres[en]tatives of the Press.

The draft programme has been dra[wn] up in accordance with the instructions [of] the Common Market summit held in [Paris] last October. The project must be pa[ssed] by 31 July. The debate in the Coun[cil of] Ministers is expected to be held in J[uly].

Legislative work will then swing [into] progress for the EEC, in many sector[s in] conjunction with non-members of [the] Common Market such as Aus[tria,] Switzerland, Sweden and the countri[es of] Eastern Europe.

Scarascio-Mugnozza noted that [the] EEC, in contrast to the UN, Unesco [and] the Council of Europe, in all of [which] there had been more than enough [talk] about environmental protection, [was] entitled not only to make recomm[enda]tions but also to inaugurate legisl[ation] binding on all nine member-countries.

The general public, he claimed, [is] dissatisfied with fashionable Interna[tional] debate on the subject and wants to [see] actions not words.

The Common Market conserv[ation] programme is a statement of [its] principles and targets. The Nine [have] already agreed on about ninety per [cent] of the contents.

The aims are as follows:

Joint action is to be undertaken to

1. Prevent, reduce and if p[ossible] eliminate environmental damage;
2. Ensure by means of legislati[on] careful, considerate and sparing [utilisa]tion of Nature's aids and the prot[ection] of the biosphere;
3. Base general economic develop[ment] on the requirements of quality of li[fe and] improvements in working-conditions;
4. Counteract residential and indu[strial] conurbations in the Common Mark[et by] means of meaningful regional [and] transport planning;
5. Seek solutions to environm[ental] problems in conjunction with cou[ntries] that are not members of the Europ[ean] Economic Community.

The principles are as follows:

1. Worsening of living-conditions [on] account of environmental damage is [to be] avoided in advance rather than recti[fied] after the event;
2. The guilty party must foot the [bill,] though transitional arrangements [are] conceivable to facilitate, say, fact[ory] conversion;
3. No one Common Market country [must] be prevented from being more progre[ssive] than its counterparts. Signor Scaras[cio-]Mugnozza mentioned in this context [the] Federal Republic legislation on lead [in] petrol. Agreement was within reach [on] this point, he added.

Priority must be attached, [the] Commission feels, to reaching agree[ment] on levels of toxin concentration th[at are] considered tolerable, unacceptable [or] harmful to health.

The cost factor is a major one. [All] member-countries must be brought [to] book in equal mesure in order to ens[ure] that conscientious environmental prot[ec]tors are not rendered uncompetitive a[s a] result of their endeavours.

This, moreover, is one of the reas[ons] why the Common Market must spe[ak] with one voice in international organisa[tions] in calling for worldwide mea[sures] designed to ensure environmental conser[]vation.

Commissioner Scarascio-Mugnozza an[]nounced that the Rhine Council th[at is] already in existence will submit its re[port] to the EEC by October. *Hermann Bö[lke]*

(Der Tagesspiegel, 17 April 1973)

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■ ROUND THE ARTS

German history as reflected in cartoons

STUTTGARTER NACHRICHTEN

A skeleton has taken over the radio studio and sits with its spindly legs on a gigantic bass drum speaking into a microphone: "Normal service will be resumed as soon as possible!"

This biting caricature from 1934 was drawn by A. Paul Weber, who is still living in Hamburg at the age of 80. It is one of 800 caricatures from which Hans Dollinger has compiled a volume of German history. The title of his book published by Südwest Verlag in Munich is *Lachen streng verboten* (Laughing strictly prohibited).

The title reveals an innate misunderstanding as if caricatures were something to laugh at, Comic Cuts for intellectual progressives. The Weber cartoon shows that the opposite is true. His overwhelming far-sightedness in 1934 might have raised a few scornful grins on Nazi faces. They were full of self-confidence and realised how few would understand Weber's work.

Hans Dollinger with his first ever history of Germany as reflected in caricatures is partly responsible for misguided interpretation of the subject as innocuous.

In the foreword to his book Dollinger says that caricaturists take the great and small of this world and portray them in their underpants, thereby taking half of the sting out of his book. The capability of caricaturists to reveal facts and figures cuts deeper than a simple amusing cartoon of every-day life. Ridiculousness with deadly intentions must have more than underpants humour. Laughing down those all-powerful people who want to forbid laughter is an act of liberation of enormous spiritual quality. Dollinger's book is a success because the author has not stuck strictly either to his title or to the foreword. It is a cleverly put together collection of caricatures with commentaries stretching back over five centuries.

The book has seven chapters of German history drawn by 190 German and foreign caricaturists.

It is a history from the point of view of independent opponents apart from a few commissioned cartoons to confirm an idea.

Caricature is not a true reflection of history but a method of pictorial recognition. By means of satirical distortions it puts the ruling classes in their place — instead of the continual flow of the public relations portraits of the great we see them cut down to size, not so as to portray them more accurately but so as to give new insight to those who are subject to them or oppressed by them.

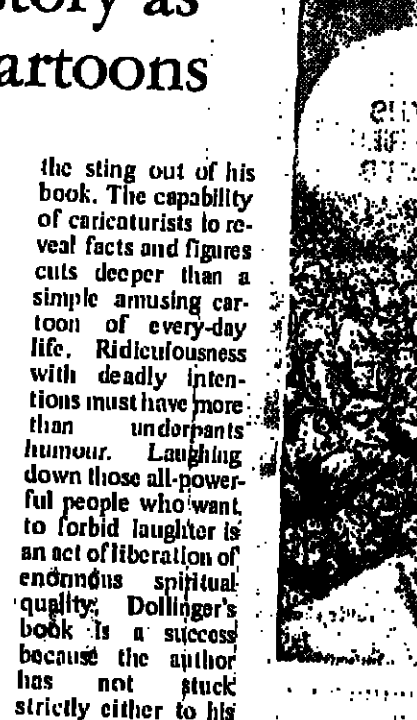
Cartoonists have never been prim and proper. In 1523 the Pope was portrayed as an ass and a caricature of the Devil playing a set of bagpipes with the features of Luther dates from about 1515. Napoleon was portrayed as a nest robber in 1815 and Wilhelm II as a belligerent warmonger in 1865. In more modern times Franz Josef Strauss has been shown as a steam roller making its way toward Bonn leaving behind any number of flattened corpses (1965).

Whenever possible the victims of caricaturists hit back or saw to it that the cartoonist in question was tried for treason. The artist Heine and writer Wedekind were imprisoned for a caricature in *Simplizissimus* on the visit of the German Imperial couple to Palestine in 1898. Publisher Albert Langen had to go into exile.

Dollinger's idea of history reflected through caricature could also be viewed as caricature in the mirror of history. It was during the Third Reich that caricature was pushed to its limits. Its scorn was swallowed and its fanfares became a testimony of horror. "Why don't they like us, Heinrich?" Hitler asks his murderous shadow Himmler as they stand under [illegible] gallows. The title of this 1942 caricature by the famous British artist David Low was "In the occupied territories". But by this time reality had been so grossly distorted that no cartoonist's pencil could hope to deform it any more. Today, Dollinger reckons, the Establishment is no longer perturbed by caricatures but actively enjoys them.

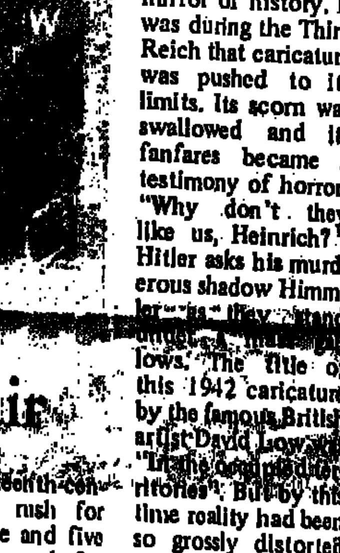
Winfried Roesner

(Stuttgarter Nachrichten, 7 April 1973)





Die Glanznummer (Cartoons: A. Paul Weber)



Die Angst vor der eigenen Courage —



... und komme nach kurzer Pause wieder (1934)

Successful Cologne Art Fair

Both art-dealers and organisers enthused over the success of the Fourth Cologne Art Fair when it ended. It was generally described as a "smash success" and few dealers went away dissatisfied.

The number of visitors underlines the success of the Art Fair. Forty thousand tickets were sold to artlovers from 33 countries. Compared with last year's event, the Fourth West German Art Fair registered seven per cent more visitors.

Sales figures were not made public. The press merely learned of sales of valuable works by Kandinsky, Nolde, Ruisdael, Menzel, Liebermann and seventeenth-century Dutch masters, of the rush for furniture priced between three and five thousand Marks and the demand for low-priced graphic works.

As the West German Art Fair is extremely similar to the International Art and Information Fair in its range of contemporary art, the organisers plan to forge an [illegible] of their own next year. "Discussions are well under way," Günther Abels, [illegible] of the Rhine Art-Dealers Association confirmed.

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 26 March 1973)

Art and politics

Art in political conflict — challenge, demands and realities, is the title of an exhibition staged by the Hanover Kunstverein. It has provoked as its initial reaction a wave of shock and controversy.

The unique exhibition is the work of eight artists each with a very individual style. It is all about art as the basis of political expression, or political involvement as the basis of artistic expression.

There are doubts about whether an artistically formulated political viewpoint will be recognised and accepted by the observer. This is the consideration which provoked lengthy discussions among artists and organisers. These discussions continued during a preview when all the artists came to Hanover: Albrecht D, Joseph Beuys, K.P. Brehmer, Hans Haacke, Dieter Hacker, Siegfried Neuenhausen, Klaus Staeck and Wolf Vostell.

For this exhibition they were not just suppliers to the Kunstverein but partners of it, as the curator Helmut Lippen said. A colloquium, weeks before was held over two days to discuss the title and type of exhibition and a joint basis for the artists involved whose standpoints were quite diverse.

It was a success according to all involved, including the initiator of the enterprise, Berlin art critic Christos Joachimides. It was intended to produce an exhibition with a challenge, namely that this art was part of a political struggle to be measured against reality, the reality of the artistic works in the exhibition as well as the reality of the economic state of affairs.

Certain exhibits in this show of so-called political Dadaism were as unconventional as the exhibition as a whole. Wolf Vostell created the M. Environment split-open fir-trees with branches that opened out into wigs with a brain somewhere on the trunk.

The whole was surrounded by glasses filled with brains. Humanisation and qualification of life are dear to Vostell's heart. "Art is pacifism," he said, "and every man can and should organise his life. A bomber pilot must take stock of the fact that his brain could end up hanging from a tree."

Joseph Beuys said: "A revolutionary artistic theorem that in fact every human being should participate in the creation

Continued on page 11

■ CINEMA

19th Oberhausen Festival is again 'progressive'

KielerNachrichten

"Short-film directors must travel at least twice a year," a Danish filmmaker stated at the 19th Oberhausen Festival of Shorts. "Once to Cracow because it holds such a conservative festival and once to Oberhausen because its festival is so progressive!"

And Oberhausen this year was progressive right from the word Go. The inaugural programme was on the imprisonment of director Carlos Alvarez in Colombia, and showed films on the subject of oppression from Colombia, Venezuela, North Vietnam, Sweden and the Federal Republic.

Festival organiser Willi Wehling said that this was to be far more an integral programme than the usual inaugural pot pourri.

It was accompanied by a resolution calling for the release of Alvarez immediately and without strings attached, and a collection for film studios in Hanoi organised by representatives of the initiatives committee for the backing of cinema in North Vietnam, which will be handing Vietnamese filmmakers equipment and materials.

North Vietnam's contribution to this inaugural ceremony "US air bombardment of the capital, Hanoi December 1971" was so badly put together that even its topical nature did not justify its being selected.

The two South American contributions *Brickmakers* and *The metal village* did no more than depict social misery, but showed quite clearly how relative poverty is in industrialised Venezuela, which is sitting on large supplies of oil, compared with Colombia.

Tupamaros made last summer by Sweden's Jan Lindquist on location in Uruguay amid great secrecy was a different kettle of fish. A leader of these "most perfect of all urban guerillas" — his face turned away from the camera — reported on the aims and motivations of this movement. Lindquist succeeded in producing unique — and well edited — visual information, including pictures taken in the secret "people's prisons" of the Tupamaros, interviews with the kidnapped British Ambassador Sir Geoffrey Jackson and an adviser to the President of Uruguay, who has now been missing for over a year.

This extraordinary documentary was of great interest to West German television executives, and it is quite likely that it will be broadcast in this country when the last Baader-Mahler-Meinhoff trial is over.

All in all this year's Oberhausen Festival was a new streamlined look with "only" 91 films up for prizes, with a total running time of 26 hours, just half as many as last year. This almost ceased to be a national programme and virtually became a programme of themes and genres — social documentation, by and with children, for and about children, cartoon films, short feature-films and so forth.

Films were only lumped together as a national entry when the organisers of the Festival (Willi Wehling, Frauke Hanck, Peter H. Schröder) felt this was justifiable. This applied to Yugoslavia, Poland, Russia and the United States.

Thus the extraordinary creativity of the Scandinavians, who entered ten films, was not so immediately obvious. Nor was it so obstrusive that Czechoslovakia had withdrawn both her film entries and was not represented.

The Communist Bloc was, as ever, widely represented in Oberhausen. The Soviet Union films were wide-ranging, those of the GDR thorough — and they did provide a natural break when tormented audience members could go and get themselves a cup of coffee!

Hungary on the other hand enjoyed rapturous applause for all but two of its entries, György Szomjas' satire on the royal and imperial era *Anna Ball* and Alajos Paulus' *Silent Night, Holy Night* — obviously Christmas eve brings Hungarian children Starfighters and machine-guns in their stockings.

The Polish entries gave rise to discussions. Poland sent a larger representation than ever before with nine films and a 34-man delegation. Polish documentary films in Oberhausen were made by young directors belonging to a new, matter-of-fact and constructively critical generation of Poles who concern themselves scathingly with aspects of every-day life in Poland.

He left on a bright day by Krzysztof Wojciechowsky tells of a family which still celebrates each year, 13 June, the day on which their son was drafted in 1939 for six weeks from which he has never returned.

In Marek Piwowski's *Psychodrama* young girls from a home report on their surroundings and the conditions in which they became criminals.

Krzysztof Gradowski's *The Atrophied Heart* tells of an old and sickly woman who is locked away in a room by her children and grandchildren, who prefer going to parties to looking after her. She dies of hunger and neglect. Gradowski says that the suffering of our neighbours, particularly old people who have ceased to be productive, made him produce this film. But orthodox officials in Poland were not happy and for two years banned the export of the film. Its Oberhausen showing is the first time it has been seen abroad.

Having arrived in Oberhausen it failed to please the Young Left. They were disturbed by its lack of social criticism. In their view it is only Capitalism that leaves old people to die sick and alone. Anyone who shows anything to the contrary is accused of fouling his own nest.

How ironic and shameful that it [illegible] the senior film critic of the East German party organ *Neues Deutschland* to point out the responsibility that each has for his neighbour and stress the freedom that a film director should enjoy.

The Oberhausen Festival ended with a series of short feature films from four countries and American entries to the retrospective "The Battle against National-Socialist Germany". The eight Soviet propaganda films included in this retrospective obviously amused the audience. Small wonder when the attentive viewer realised that exactly the same tanks were being used in what was supposed to be France as turned up in Stalingrad, in a film supposedly produced in 1944 a city supposedly known at the time as Volgograd! *Hauke Lange-Fuchs*

(Kieler Nachrichten, 14 April 1973)



Krzysztof Wojciechowski's 'He left on a bright clear day'

Continued from page 10

and order of the social organism, can become a productive force politically speaking."

Neuenhausen, who created the Strauss File, is of a different opinion. His faceless but three-dimensional demonstrators set out to make social contradictions visible; Klaus Staeck intends his pictures to unmask. Irony and cunning are his methods, he says. He has used his talents on CDU election posters.

Albrecht D. creates political miniature art. Postcards, pamphlets, newspaper collages are his modes of expression in the battle against oppression and injustice.

K.P. Brehmer brought his colour test "national colours" from Berlin to Hanover. For him art signifies appropriation of reality. Socio-political phenomena are the point of departure for Hans Haacke's work, while Dieter Hacker is "a critic of constructivism".

Gisela Burkamp

(Der Tagesspiegel, 4 April 1973)

Oberhausen short-film prizes 1973

Frankfurter Allgemeine

Yugoslavia came off best of all countries exhibiting films at the 19th West German Festival of Shorts in Oberhausen with seven prizes and awards. The total value was 7,000 Marks and the Yugoslavs carried off two diplomas and prestigious recognition, and created great interest in Yugoslav filmmaking.

The international jury made awards worth in all 13,000 Marks to nine films from seven different countries. Two thousand Marks each went to *He left on a bright day* (Poland), *Girl Companions* (Yugoslavia), *Track of the Soul* (USSR) and *Love* (Yugoslavia). The jury awarded 1,000 Marks each to films from Hungary, Poland, Canada, the United States and the German Democratic Republic.

The jury for the 5,000-Mark prize awarded by the North Rhine-Westphalia Education Ministry awarded the prize to the Bulgarian film *Snowdrops* by Nina Jankova.

Two thousand Marks were awarded by the international jury adjudicating the best cartoon films to the Canadian short *Street Music* by Ryan Larkin. *Liebe* by Vlatko Gilic received 2,000 Marks from the Catholic filmwork jury.

The jury of the international Protestant film centre gave 1,000 Marks each to films from Switzerland, Yugoslavia and Colombia.

The motto of this year's Oberhausen Festival was "Path to our Neighbours". Correspondingly the four-man international jury of documentary films chaired by Jerzy Bossak from Warsaw decided not to give the 6,000 Marks at their disposal to films. Instead 2,000 Marks each went to the studios "Hanoi" and "Liberation" in the north and south of Vietnam. The other 2,000 Marks are destined for the defence of director Carlos Alvarez, who has been under arrest since last June in Colombia.

The international film critics' jury also stuck to the theme of the inaugural exhibition "liberty for Carlos Alvarez". They donated 2,000 Marks towards court costs. 1,000 Marks each went to the films *Tupamaros* by Jan Lindquist and *Die Maschine* by Helma Sanders of the Federal Republic. This same film was also awarded 1,500 Marks by the Young Socialists, 500 Marks of which the directrice plans to give for the defence of her comrade Alvarez.

More than 1,200 visitors came from home and abroad to this year's shorts festival.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 16 April 1973)



Józef Gębski and Antoni Halor's 'I + 1 ...'

■ THE SCIENCES

Amorous prawns and destructive starfish

A little, brightly-coloured crab *hymenocera picta* of all things, living in the Pacific and known as the harlequin prawn or robber prawn, has been the subject of behavioural research carried out by scientists at the Max Planck Institute in Seewiesen in Upper Bavaria.

Their conclusion — the best way of protecting oneself from everyday stresses of *modern life may be — marriage! They were able to bear out these findings* with research on the tupaya, a mammal and antediluvian ancestor of *homo sapiens.*

But the harlequin prawn had previously achieved fame that spread from the Max Planck Institute to the world for a quite different reason. As food for their "guinea-pig" prawns the scientists at Seewiesen took delivery of a consignment of spiny starfish of the acanthaster family.

These creatures are detested in Australasia because they destroy all life on the coral reefs. If the reefs should disappear the coastline would lose its natural protection from the ravages of the oceans. All attempts to wipe out the plundering starfish had been a miserable failure.

Seewiesen seemed to have found a solution to this problem. When the starfish were put in with the harlequin prawn the battle was short and decisive — the prawns made short work of the starfish.

It seemed that rescue for the reefs had come from a most unexpected quarter — the Max Planck labs in Upper Bavaria. Experts all over the world rejoiced. But jubilation was short-lived. It was discovered that the prawns, far from being a *deus ex machina*, were just as rapacious when they go on the reefs. The baby went out with the bathwater where they were concerned.

But the beautifully coloured little crustaceons which only grow to about three centimetres in length still had a few interesting things to show scientists.

They use their sense of smell to find their prey, and the same organ attracts them to their marriage partner, so in fact only the prawns that smell sweet mate. Personel freshness seems to have something to recommend it, even in the prawn world!

Seewiesen researchers soon found out that the smell is so distinctive the harlequin prawn cannot mistake its spouse and remains monogamous throughout its short life.

Sex has nothing to do with this. It is because the little prawn finds peace with his chosen spouse that he stays with her and does not seek another mate.

Scientists proved this by separating married couples. The harlequin prawns taken away from their mate were found to be suffering from stress. Their feelers lashed the water and they were unable to keep their legs still. When reunited with their "better half" the prawns immediately calmed down again. Their feelers began to make normal gentle movements again.

How did the behavioural research experts determine that this was not a purely sexually motivated reaction? Well their wiles are boundless. Happily married harlequin prawns were separated from their wives and put in the same tank as another female — the sexiest females of the species available with an alluring perfume. The harlequin prawn was unfaithful. The sexy female prawn made him excited and he mated with her, but it was not till he was reunited with his spouse that he regained his calm again.

From this the aetiologists concluded that apart from the already well known reasons for animals pairing, reproduction and welfare of the offspring, their is a general tendency for members of the animal kingdom to get together.

It is valid to draw analogies between animal and human behaviour if certain behaviour patterns between Man and the animal kingdom are as inate as physical *features and if both are part of the whole* natural setup.

When drawing such analogies it is often of minor significance whether the animal being used for comparison is a shrimp from the Pacific or the anthropoids which are regarded as the nearest relatives to Man.

In Seewiesen the scientists are only too keen to take *home sapiens* down a peg and show that indisputable proof of the superiority of Man over the animal kingdom can be reduced to the absurd.

It is useless to point out that Man is surperior because he stands erect and does not go on all fours. However dignified a diplomat or waiter in a dinner jacket may appear he cannot help looking like a king penguin.

Comparisons between the cerebral advantages of Man over the animal kingdom — if it were simply a question of complicated brain structure thousands of Albert Einsteins would be found in the world's dolphinariums.

A third distinction often suggested for the superiority of *home sapiens* and the high anthropoid apes is that they are monogomous. This is untrue. All forms of partnership in the ape kingdom from the gorilla which rears a large family to an Asian orang utang which simply takes up with a partner temporarily before moving on to new conquests like a roué. As far as baboons are concerned it has been observed that they vary from polygomy to monogomy depending how the influences of the environment change.

The only anthropoid ape that practices monogomy like the harliquin prawn is the gibbon, which has its home in Asia. In order to try to understand why the gibbon remains monogamous Seewiesen motivational researcher Dr Wolfgang Wickler plans to make field studies of these animals and their home in primaeval forests.

He is particularly keen to research siamangs, the largest of the gibbons which are noted for their morning song. What does this song portend? Dr Wickler said: "Perhaps it means nothing more than good morning, here I am". It could be a way of laying down demarcation lines of gibbon's territory such as is practiced by certain species of green monkey and bird.

Researchers in Seewiesen have long realised that there are multifarious reasons for cohabitation. Species of perch live together for sexual reasons until the *female lays her eggs*. That is the end of the love affair, but the pairs do not separate. They remain together and look after their offspring.

Dr Wickler said: "This is a direct parellel to human married couples who no longer love each other but stay together for the sake of the kids."

If as an experiment the young fish are removed from the aquarium the male and female no longer have any reason for peaceful co-existence and set about each other in no uncertain manner. If the young are then reintroduced the marital tiff immediately ends and the couple concern themselves with looking after their young once more.

The Seewiesen researchers have also destroyed the old myth that storks make ideal happily married couples. It is only the nest the keeps the storks together. Each year they return to the old nest and hence come into contact with the same partner as in the previous year. Faithfullness has nothing to do with it.

A quite special form of partnership is found in those communities that stick together in order to find food. Konrad Lorenz called them "gobbling companions". These can be quite varied species.

A Seewiesen research is being carried on into the reasons why various pairs are formed, using wild geese, ducks and poultry. With a gesture of resignation a young aetiologist of the fair sex pointed to two drakes sitting together enjoying the bright sunshine of early summer. She said: "They are all homosexuals."

Werner Philipp

(Der Tagesspiegel, 31 March 1973)

Overweight birds

Spring-like weather throughout the winter has meant that the feath[...] community have never had it so g[...] Animal lovers have reported to [...] protection authorities that many bi[...] particularly blackbirds, have fed so [...] throughout the winter that they h[...] become grossly overweight and c[...] hardly fly.

Ornithologist Dr Hans Edmund Wol[...] from the Alexander König Zoolog[...] Research Institute, Bonn, has said "It [...] been a fat winter for animal."

Last winter was so mild that some b[...] could see no good reason for their [...] holiday in the south for the winter.

Dr Wolters said: "In some species [...] migratory instinct was completely lo[...]

In Essen Dr Wilfried Przygodda, [...] of the State bird protection author[...] said that many startlings, larks [...] lapwings remained in this country.

There was very little snow or ic[...] block the birds' access to natural [...] such as seeds and insects. Dr Przyg[...] said: "Despite this many people wh[...] a garden have filled bird houses with [...] Their kindness has gone a bit too far [...] winter."

But the experts deny reports by a[...] lovers that birds are suffering f[...] obesity. Dr Wolters said: "Unlike hum[...] beings birds only consume as much f[...] as they need."

Alarming reports about birds too f[...] fly have made the experts look [...] another cause.

Dr Wolters said: "Many people do[...] take enough care of their houses. It is[...] enough just to fill them with food, [...] they must be kept clean."

And Dr Przygodda said: "The [...] winter has meant that many sick [...] weakly birds that would normally [...] been killed off have survived."

As a result of the disrupted proce[...] natural selection there is likely to be [...] glut of blackbirds this year plaguing fr[...] growers.

However, Dr Wolters said: "The o[...] balance is in the other direction. The [...] winter has not equlaised out the ef[...] of birds eating crops sprayed [...] poisonous chemicals. We are still ap[...]aching the point where only espe[...] tough and resistant birds such as spa[...] survive."

(Welt am Sonntag, 1 April 1973)

Martinsried biochemical centre – Europe's largest

Europe's largest biochemical centre has just been opened in Martinsried, near Munich to research into "normal and disrupted" metabolisms in Man, animals and plants.

In the neighbourhood of the giant Grohadern clinic which is to commence partial operations at the turn of the year with a starting number of patients of 500, later to be increased to 700, members of the research centre will carry out important basic research into problems of virus and cell structure, the biological feasibility of organ transplants and cancer.

A total of 72 million Marks has been spent on just one of the three institutes of the joint research centres. It has been built into bunkers deep in the earth to avoid vibrations. In the sphere of immunology it will make new contributions of world-wide significance according to the winner of the 1964 Nobel Prize for medicine, Professor Feodor Lynen, the head of the biochemistry centre attached to the Max Planck Society.

By means of a process of separation taking advantage of the differing surface electrical charges of individual cell groups it is impossible to separate from the blood certain lymphosytes known as "pillar cells" which are responsible for the rejection of transplanted tissue and which also have an important role to play in carcinogenesis.

Following the successful transplantation of bone marrow in apes Professor Kurt Hannig, the head of the department, expressed the hope that treatment of many diseases of the bone marrow such as leukemia would be possible.

Also the ability to manipulate immunological limits of tolerance has given researchers the hope that methods of treating previously incurable diseases will be found.

Today more than 800 chemical compounds are known that can produce cancers in guinea pigs. A study group under Professor Heinz Dannenberg hopes to discover more about the changes in genetic material in cells caused in the matabolism by carcinogenes.

A vital factor is the question of mollecular structure of chromosomes and the problem of the activiation of hereditary factors which Professor Lynen calls "one of the fundamental problems of biocchemistry".

Professor Peter Hans Hofschneider has carried out experiments with animals which leads him to believe that owing to a certain unexplained mechanism certain vires can be passed on through the metabolism as a result in the breakdown in the immonoligical system, mutat[...] or other causes.

Cancer could develop in such com[...]cated fashion even through no defini[...] proof is available that vires [...] responsible for causing tumours, and it [...] known that cancer is certainly not [...] infectious disease like 'flu.

Certain "unsuspicious" and [...] supposedly "degenerative" sicknes[...] Hofschneider feels, could be caused b[...] non-typical vires. These, he says, m[...] have lost their ability to kill cells but [...] nonetheless dangerous for all that.

Vires of this kind could work their [...] into cells like a "genetic satellite" and gradually convert the host cell into [...] cancer cell.

Research is going on in Martinsried t[...] find ways of preventing reproduction [...] these cells without damaging normal cel[...] metabolism. The researchers are seeking antibiotics that neutralise virus enzymes without affect cell enzymes.

A fundamental process of life is being investigated by the study group under Professor Wolfgang Zillig — the adjust[...]ment of a living organism to a changing environment. In this proteins have a ke[...] role to play.

They control the metabolism of the organism and the construction of cells. Professor Zillig believes his studies will prove invaluable in the treatment of mollecular diseases and cancer.

Karl Stankiewitz

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 31 March 1973)

■ PROFILE

Pioneer chemist Justus Liebig died one hundred years ago

Justus Liebig, one of the most versatile and important chemists this country has ever produced, died in Munich a hundred years ago, on 18 April 1973.

Liebig's father dealt in paints and dyes in Darmstadt, where Justus was born on 12 May 1803. As a boy he helped his father to manufacture dyestuffs in the family firm's small laboratory. Justus developed a keen and untiring interest in chemistry.

His school career was far from spectacular, though. In Liebig's own words: "Languages were virtually a closed book as far as I was concerned.

"The headmaster summoned me at one stage and told me in no uncertain terms that I was the despair of both my teachers and my parents. What, he asked me, did I expect to become of me?

"My reply was that I wanted to be a chemist. The assembled company, including the redoubtable headmaster, burst out laughing. In those days no one visualised chemistry as being a subject suitable for university studies."

Yet after serving his apprenticeship at a pharmacy Liebig went on to study chemistry after all, first at Bonn, then, with the aid of a grant from the Grand Duke of Hesse, in Paris.

At the age of 21 he was appointed professor at the University of Giessen and stayed there for 28 years before moving to Munich.

Liebig discovered chloride, chloroform and a new category of compounds, the

Frankfurter Rundschau

aldehydes. He improved elementary analysis and devoted much of his time to research into the nutrition of plants and animals. His work in agricultural chemistry was a blessing for the whole of Mankind.

A key concept in Liebig's work was the life-cycle. "Look at the woods and the meadows," he wrote to the Swedish chemist Jakob Berzelius, who was a leading international authority for half a century, "and tell me where, on sandy ground, the carbon you can fell as wood a century later is to come from."

This, however, was a question that even the great Berzelius, his friend and mentor, was unable to answer.

At all events Liebig's life-cycle theory led to the emergence of artificial fertilizer industries. In order to decompose phosphates entire factories had to produce sulphuric acid, and once nitrogenous fertilizers were developed from the air we breathe the industry assumed ever greater proportions.

As a result of research along Liebig's line of thought the existence of carbon dioxide in air and water was discovered.

Plants collect carbon dioxide and break it down into carbon and oxygen. The carbon is converted into the wood of the forest, the greenery of the meadows and the vegetation of the sea and the oxygen is returned to the atmosphere or the water so that animals and fish can breathe.

When we exhale we provide plants with fresh supplies of carbon dioxide. "The lives of flora and fauna are thus closely linked in a wonderfully straightforward manner," Liebig wrote.

His versatility was proverbial. He not only worked his way through chemical substances ranging from fulminic acid to amydalin; he also worked out procedures for the manufacture of mirrors, baking powder and meat extract. Liebig's meat extract is still a household word in this country.

Like Castor and Pollux, though, the name of Justus Liebig must always be associated with that of Friedrich Wöhler (1800-1882). The two men were friends and associates for decades.

Wöhler was the scion of a well-to-do Frankfurt family, searching in his powers of observation and systematic in his patterns of thought.

At the age of 24 he returned from training as a chemist under Berzelius in Stockholm to become a teacher at a municipal trades college in Berlin. The two chemists, Liebig and Wöhler, began to correspond.

Two of the many discoveries Wöhler made will impress even the layman. In 1827 he discovered aluminium and a year later he synthesised urea.

In those days life-force was imagined to be the prerequisite for the development of organic substances. The production of artificial urea dealt this concept a severe blow and organic chemistry went from strength to strength as a result.

(Photo: IP)

Wöhler married happily but his wife died young and he took up residence with the Liebigs, the two men working together. Their cooperation continued when Wöhler became professor of chemistry at Göttingen, so much so that at times it is hard to say what will have been Liebig's work and what Wöhler's.

Their work on benzoic acid was certainly the result of joint labours, one atomic group, benzoyl, aradical, remaining unchanged at all stages.

This was the beginning of the theory of radicals, and the names Liebig and Wöhler remain inseparable in the history of chemistry, though Liebig, who in 1845 was made a baron by the King of Bavaria, was unquestionably the more forceful of the two.

Otto Tappen

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 17 April 1973)

■ **OUR WORLD**

Bamberg – the Rome of the North

Any city likes comparisons that are in its favour and raises it in people's esteem. So the people of Bamberg are delighted when their town is called Germany's Rome or the Venice of the North.

But the people of Bamberg, mostly God-fearing and good Catholics, remain fairly calm at the enthusiasm shown at the beauty of the city which is expressed by people from all four points of the compass.

They know that as long ago as the eleventh century the pious Abbot Gebhard compared Bamberg with Athens.

Bamberg now has a population of 80,000 and has become an important industrial and shipping town of northern Bavaria. When the festival is held this summer orators will remind us of the great past that the city has in the 1,000 years since it was founded. There will be processions, fairs, and other open-air events to mark the 1,000 anniversary of Bamberg.

Bamberg has had a charter since 973 when Emperor Otto II made over the citadel of Barenberg to Duke Heinrich the Odorous of Bavaria.

His son who later became King of the Germans and Emperor Heinrich II wanted the empire to be a system of spiritual principalities ruled by diligent bishops who would be loyal subjects to their emperor. Bamberg was to be the foundation stone of this system. In 1007 Heinrich II founded the bishopric. Bamberg was given a special position, independent even from the all-powerful archbishopric of Mainz.

Heinrich II's political intentions were clear. He wanted to throw his chains round the powerful Bavarian dukes and their associates in Eichstätt and Würzburg who were discontent with the administration of the empire. Furthermore Bamberg was to be an outpost of Christianity on the borders of the Slavic world.



Bamberg – the old town (Photos: Nordpress)

Shortly after Bamberg was founded Heinrich laid this trifle at the feet of his wife Kunigunde. When the pious empress renounced her rights Heinrich made God himself the heir to Bamberg. The holy couple are buried in Bamberg Cathedral, the Dom. They are in a stone sarcophagus with carvings by no less than Tilman Riemenschneider.

When Heinrich III of Franconia made Bishop Suidger of Bamberg Pope Clement II it looked as if Bamberg really would become Germany's Rome.

Clement remained very fond the city and the bishopric of Bamberg. He was buried in Bamberg.

Hans Max von Aufsees asked: "Where else is there such a meeting of spiritual and secular – and emperor's and a pope's tomb in one cathedral."

Bishop Otto I was another major personality to be connected with Bamberg bishops had become Prince-determination Otto continued the work of Heinrich II. He built a bridge between imperial and papal claims to sovereignty and rebuilt the Bamberg Cathedral, built by Heinrich II and severely damaged by an earthquake in 1117. He brought the Cistercians into the bishopric and as secular lord he took care of town and country around.

A century later, about 1240, the Bamberg bishops had become Prince-bishops. Their names and families – the Meranier, for example – had a major role to play in the politics of the empire. At the age of 1000 Bamberg is more than a city of churches, cloisters and clerics. The Cathedral, the knight's statue, the Residenz and the old Town Hall built as an island remain, in all their glory. But all around the old town the new Bamberg has sprung up with willing hands operating lathes, bricklaying and attending to road construction. Bamberg's industry is quite considerable, specialising in textiles, shoes, building materials and electrical goods. To the north of the city the habour of the Rhine-Main-Danube canal was completed in 1962 and serves the whole of Upper Franconia.

The people of Bamberg have a sense of humour. They are known as the onion traders and the name is greeted by them with a mild smile. Onions are grown in large numbers in and around Bamberg and the gardeners have to tread the ground down hard so that the onion stems do not grow up too high so that the onions will be big and juicy.

Any lover of Franconian cuisine will be delighted when presented with a delicate roast surrounded by golden yellow rings of fresh Bamberg roasted onions.

Such treats for gourmets await guests at taverns such the famous Schlenkerla which is reckoned to be the second most famous institution in Bamberg after the Cathedral. Schlenkerla means *Rauchbier*, a dark brown local brew that tastes like smoked ham in liquid form.

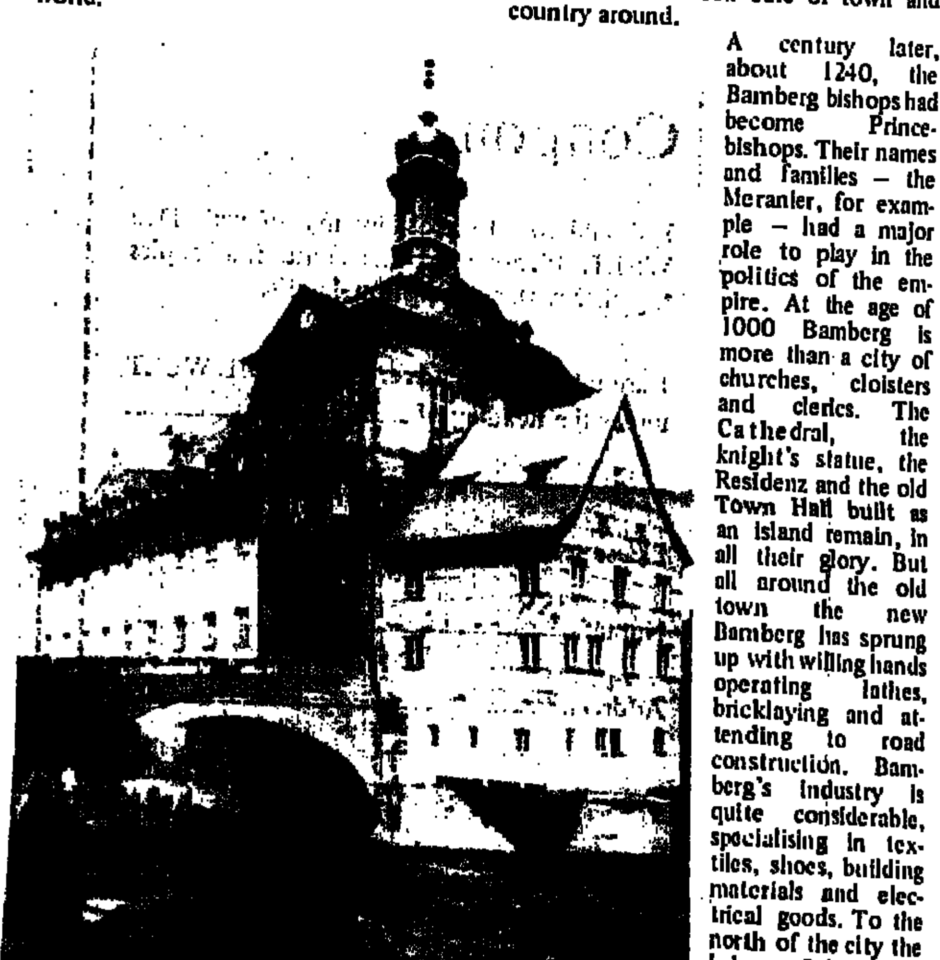
The ravages of time have hit the old town hard throughout the centuries. Walls are crumbling and beams have become rotten. Oberbürgermeister Mathieu said: "To put it all in order we will have to spend several hundred million Marks. Bamberg alone cannot find such sums."

He gave a reminder of the activities of the German Unesco commission which last year classified Bamberg, Lübeck and Venice as ancient monuments worthy of preservation, which must be carried out by Europe as a whole.

Citizens of 100-year-old Bamberg do not want their city to be regarded as an open-air museum. Herr Mathieu said: "We are concerned that Bamberg should be made a living city."

Robert Künzel

(Kieler Nachrichten, 10 April 1973)



The old Town Hall, Bamberg

Hamburg's Congress Centre

The project cost something in the region of 145 million Marks. Some people in Hamburg have already criticised it as an irrecoverable loss. Apart from purely monetary consideration the people of Hamburg have had to give up 13,000 square metres of their beloved parkland Planten un Blomen right in the centre of the city.

This is part of the price they have had to pay for the privilege of providing the largest and most modern congress centre in Europe, opening its doors to the public for the first time on 14 April 1973.

The building has been completed in three years without any particular delay in the schedule.

Progressive planners with great ambitions for Hamburg at the Town Hall feel that this building project will elevate the hanseatic city on the River Elbe to the ranks of the top international congress centres in Europe, and indeed the world.

Thanks to CCH, the Congress Centrum Hamburg, the largest city in the Federal Republic hopes to put itself on the same footing as other major international centres in Europe, such as Paris, Lausanne and Geneva.

The new congress centre is built to the latest architectural designs and the actual congress building stands next to another edifice that towers over it, a 100 metre high concrete obelisk.

This is Loew's Hamburg Plaza, a modern hotel with 1,160 beds belonging to the American Loew organisation.

The new hotel precisely 118 metres high has 32 storeys and includes 17 conference rooms. Guests staying there will find that it is never far from their room to the nearest confereece room.

The hotel building project cost ... million Marks. It has over 500 rooms and welcomed its first guests at the end of March. The Congress Centre is able to accommodate 10,000 visitors, as much as a medium-sized football stadium.

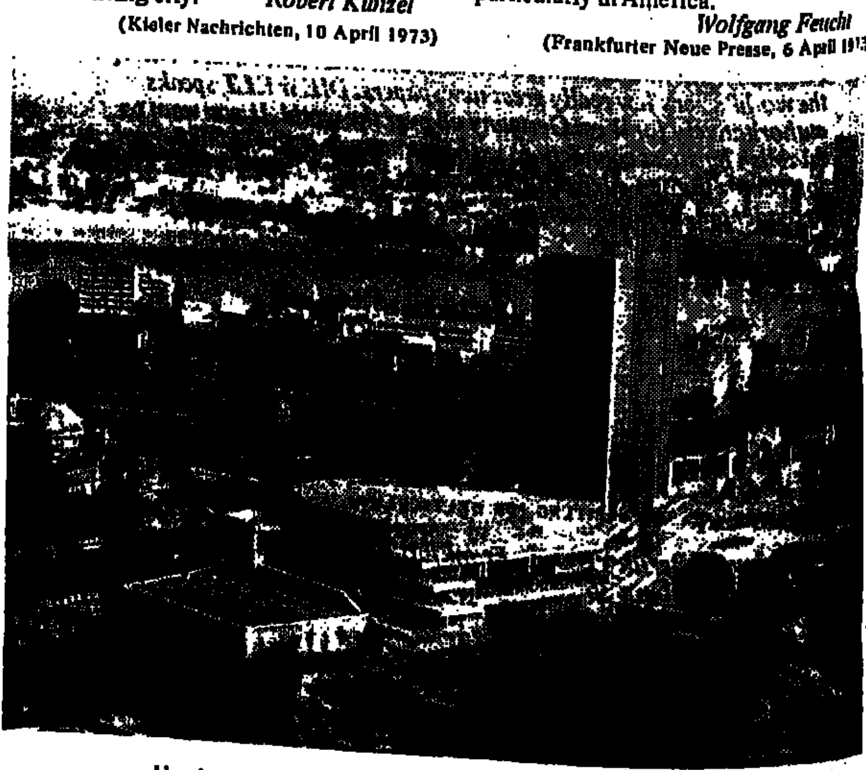
The Congress Centre is designed for every conceivable kind of cultural and political event and entertainment fromconcerts to television shows.

Paul G.Langfeld, who since last autumn has been known as the Congress director is responsible for publicity of the new centre. He is working in conjunction with the managers of the four top Hamburg hotels, Atlantc, Vier Jahreszeiten, Inter-Continental and Loews.

German-American Langfeld said: "It is vital that Hamburg make for itself a name as an influential organiser of congresses particularly in America."

Wolfgang Feucht

(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 6 April 1973)



Hamburg's congress centre with the Hamburg Plaza Hotel (Photo: CCH)

■ **SPORT**

Christel Justen – a 15-year-old swimming star

At the end of the first length I just thought: 'Gosh, the others aren't half a long way back'!" The others saw matters in a different light. "Against her we stand not a chance," they felt as they grimly swam on behind.

The girl in question is Christel Justen, a German by nationality but living, like so many Aachen people, in Holland because of housing prices.

Christel, 15, goes to high school in Aachen and is trained, with spectacular results, by Claus Vandenhirtz, who is a master electrician by trade. Only weeks ago no one had heard of her. Now she has emerged as a second Catie Ball.

Christel, who swam the 100 metres breast-stroke in a world-shaking time of 1 min. 15.26 sec. in Hamburg recently, is indeed the first breast-stroke swimmer in Europe to imitate, or almost so, the individualistic but successful style of American world record-holder Catie.

As a rule a good breast-stroke swimmer, girl swimmer, let us say, does between 28 and 32 strokes over the fifty-metre length. Christel Justen from Vaals, just inside the Dutch border, does between 37 and 38.

There is a difference between the two, though. Catie Ball seems to skip across the surface of the water like a pebble on her way to world records. Christel Justen, 166 metres (five foot six) tall and weighing 115 metric lb (126 lb avoirdupois), ploughs her way through the water.

There is not another girl in Europe capable of stroking quite as fast as Christel, a petite girl who, to use her coach's words, is half-Dutch. She certainly trains frequently and regularly with the best Dutch girl swimmers, and popular European record-holder Hansje Bunschoten is a regular visitor to the Justens'.

This country can count itself lucky that Christel Justen at least has a Federal Republic passport.

The self-assuredness of her self-made coach, who has developed his own gymnastic equipment and hopes to market it soon, is impressive:

"We are not quite ready for an attempt on the world record (of 1 min. 13.58 sec.) yet but our next target is Galina Stepanova's European record of 1 min. 14.7 sec."

The purpose of Christel's current training programme is to peak in time for this September's world championships in Belgrade. She quietly prepared for the Hamburg open championships at Crystal Palace, London, and is now off to a fortnight's training stint at Sori, near Genoa.

Karl Morgenstern

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 13 April 1973)



Christel Justen (Photo: Sven Simon)



Skaters retire

With ten months to go to the ice-skating world championships in Munich the reigning world championship runners-up Angelika and Erich Buck of Ravensburg have announced their retirement from competitive skating. "Fourteen years are more than enough," their father Erich Buck stated on behalf of his children, who were in Japan until the end of April. A decision will be made this summer as to whether the Bucks will turn professional. Angelika and Erich will not find it too difficult to retire from amateur ice-skating, as their coach Betty Callaway has also just handed in notice to quit to the Ice-Skating Association. The climax of their career must surely have been the European championships last year in Gothenburg, Sweden. At the world championships, though, the Ravensburg couple have always been pipped to the post by the Moscow couple Ludmilla Pakhomova and Alexander Gorshkov. (Photo: Werek)

Popular sport

Sporting activity is gaining in popularity. Since 1967 the number of people actively engaged in sport of one kind or another has increased by roughly half.

This conclusion has been reached on the strength of an opinion poll conducted on behalf of the Ministry of the Interior.

In 1967 only 22 per cent of those questioned claimed to engage actively in sporting activities. Last year the percentage had increased to thirty-four.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 25 April 1973)

Top-scorer Eusebio

It looks as though Eusebio of Portugal is going to beat Gerd Müller of Bayern Munich as this season's most successful soccer goal-scorer in European professional football.

In Benfica Lisbon's 2-1 victory over Tomar (Benfica leads the Portuguese first division with 49-1 points) Eusebio scored both goals to bring his total so far this season to 31. Müller so far has 27 to his credit.

(Nordwest Zeitung, 17 April 1973)

Government ploughs 210 million Marks into sport

This year the Bonn Federal government plans to allocate 210.2 million Marks to sport. According to Lothar Brede, the sports specialist of the Social Democratic parliamentary party, this amount represents the sum total of sports allocations included in the estimates of ten Ministries.

The budget estimates provide for grants of nearly 24 million Marks towards the work of the Federal Republic Sports League (DSB), the National Olympic Committee and disciplinary sports associations.

32.5 million Marks are to be invested by the Federal government in sports facilities construction. In addition twenty million Marks are to be shared out between seven local authorities responsible for improving and rebuilding football grounds in preparation for next year's association football World Cup.

The Ministry of the Interior has allocated 5.3 million Marks towards the work of the Federal Institute of Sports Science and 150,000 Marks towards sports promotion in the Federal border guard. The Education and Science Ministry is to contribute 31 million Marks towards the construction of university sports facilities and pilot projects in school sport. The Fedence Ministry's estimates include sports expenditure to the tune of 57 million Marks.

The Ministry of Labour is to plough nearly 6.2 million Marks into sport for the disabled and the government also plans to invest 6.86 million Marks in the Federal Republic's programme of sport for young people and international events. The Federal Youth Games will be subsidised to the tune of 540,000 Marks.

Seven million Marks are to be spent by the Foreign Office and the Ministry of Economic Cooperation on sport as a facet of development aid and cultural promotion abroad.

The Foreign Office estimates will also include a probable 300,000 Marks towards sporting contacts with East and South-East Asian countries and the Republic of China.

(Die Welt, 28 March 1973)

Ice hockey relegation in Moscow

At the ice hockey world championships in Moscow this country has been relegated from the top six, to be replaced by the GDR. There is no cause for dismay. This country is not one of the greats anyway. Neither is Poland nor the GDR. There are only three and a half countries that really rule the roost in amateur ice hockey: the Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia (who have now ceded the world championship title to Russia), Sweden und perhaps, Finland. Oddly enough, there would be a round half dozen if only the distinction between state-employed "amateurs" and self-confessed professionals were abolished. The other two greats are Canada and the United States.

Until such time as the distinction between shamateurs and professionals is abolished the state-employed "amateurs" will continue inevitably to rule the roost in international ice hockey.

This country will not be able to compete on equal terms with the rest for a long time. Ice hockey is not a popular sport in this country, for instance. The broad base any discipline needs if it is to produce a top flight does not exist here.

The most gratifying feature of this country's team is coach Kiessling, who even went so far (a little prematurely, this writer feels) as to put his own son in the team as a back.

In all other respects the boys from Bad Tölz and Riessersee and Landshut, all small towns in Upper Bavaria where ice hockey flourishes, were magnificent but doomed from the start, like a promising but unspectacular middleweight boxer lined up against Joe Frazier.

Yet ice hockey could become a most attractive discipline in an age of television. The rink is nicely matched to the lens of a TV camera. The game is fast and the action packed with thrills and spills. The only drawback is that the puck escapes from view from time to time, but it could be painted in fluorescent colours.

Even so, this country has been relegated from the top flight in international ice hockey, and it is perhaps just as well.

(Die Zeit, 20 April 1973)



Willi Schulz retires

Willi Schulz, 34, the veteran of 66 soccer internationals and two World Cup competitions, a professional footballer of fourteen years' standing, took his final bow in an international benefit game in Hamburg on 24 April. (Photo: Nordbild)